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Nobel prize list lacks Chinese

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Mao's former plane on sale



IC Photo

The jet said to be Chairman Mao's former plane rests in Ridong Square in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, prior to sale.

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100,000 yuan - a killer's bounty

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Train passenger dies in ropes

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British producer sounds out Beijing



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New standards on melamine levels in dairy products released

By Milo Lee

China's health department announced temporary standards on melamine levels in milk-related products Wednesday in light of the recent national scandal of melamine-affected infant formula. However, the new limit does not mean melamine is allowed in dairy products, Wang Xuening, deputy director of the ministry's Health Supervision Bureau, said.

The new standards say melamine in infant formula cannot exceed a maximum content of one milligram per kilogram, and a maximum 2.5 milligrams per kilogram for liquid milk, milk powder and other products that contain at least 15 percent milk.

Wang said that due to the fact that melamine can be transferred into food from the environment and wrapping materials, there are now international standards on the amount of residue. This temporary limit is an administrative response to control the quality of dairy products and protect consumer safety.

As of 12 am on October 7, 3,203 infants have been confirmed to be suffering urinary system problems due to melamine in their formula. This includes 1,637 local patients, all of whom are out of critical condition. Since September 12, 184,000 of the suspected victims of the tainted powder were

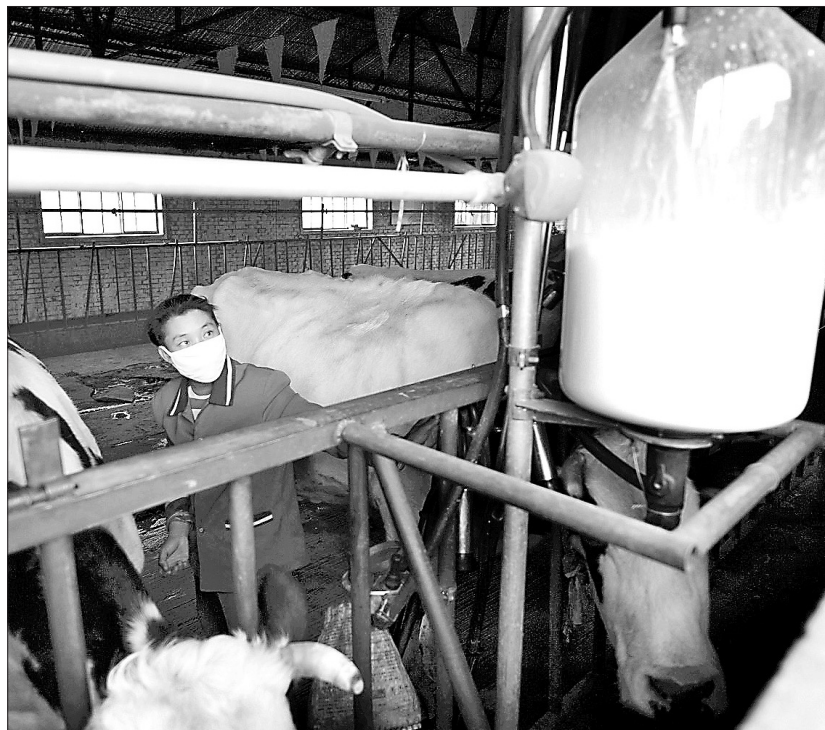
screened in Beijing. The number of new patients is on declining.

The Beijing government allocated 33.4 million yuan in emergency funds to ensure the screening process of potential victims goes smoothly. Local medical institutions paid 8 million yuan in advance to diagnose patients.

A total of 10,666 infants in China have been admitted to hospitals since October 8 and 36,144 infants have recovered. No infants have died since the scandal broke in September; the previous reported deaths all happened from May to August. More than 4,000 medical institutions have participated in screening new patients and many provided pro bono treatment.

Melamine is an industrial chemical used in making plastics, paints, adhesives and food packaging materials. Though it is not a food additive or raw material, melamine can make diluted dairy products perform well in protein examinations. High doses of melamine in infants can cause kidney stones.

On September 11, China's Health Ministry issued an alert regarding infants diagnosed with urinary stones after they consumed Sanlu's infant formula, then a national investigation of problematic milk powder began. Hebei police arrested 27 people for deliberately tainting powdered milk since then.



A dairy farmer watches milk fill a glass container at a milking station in an Inner Mongolian village.

IC Photo

Gas hike and restrictions disappoint drivers



An attendant at a fuel station in Beijing changes the prices for gasoline products Tuesday morning.

CFP Photo

By Han Manman

Beijing increased its fuel prices Tuesday for the second time in three months to pro-

mote air quality. However, the move together with increased car restrictions has been the bane of local drivers.

The retail benchmark prices for gasoline and diesel in Beijing will increase 200 and 290 yuan per ton respectively, according to a release issued by Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform (BMCDR) late Monday.

After the adjustment, 93 octane, the most common type of gas, will sell for 6.37 yuan per liter, up 0.17 yuan; 97 octane will retail at 6.78 yuan per liter, compared to 6.6 yuan before the adjustment.

BMCDR said the price hike was meant to compensate for the increased cost in processing cleaner fuels to conform to the Euro IV standard, which mandates the emission of fewer pollutants.

According to an online survey conducted by a top Chinese Web portal weeks ago, nearly 37 percent of netizens said another increase in gas prices would deter them from purchasing a car. Nearly 47 percent of netizens said the acceptable price was 6.2 yuan per liter for 93 octane.

"I have been filling up with 93 octane and I have to pay an extra 50 yuan per month because of the price hike," Chen Yongyi, a

resident who drives to work every day said. "The new car ban policy that will become effective on Saturday is also big trouble. I cannot drive my car on Mondays, my busiest day during the week."

Beijing announced a series of post-Olympic car restrictions that will take effect this month, which are aimed at reducing traffic and pollution.

Under the new restrictions, 30 percent of government vehicles will be removed from roadways as of October 1, according to a circular issued by the Beijing municipal government September 28.

The remaining 70 percent of government vehicles, and all corporate and private cars, will take turns off the roads one out of five weekdays starting tomorrow.

Cars with plates ending with 1 or 6 are banned on Monday. Those ending with 2 or 7 will be banned Tuesday, 3 or 8 Wednesday, 4 or 9 Thursday, and 5 or 0 Friday. The ban does not apply on weekends.

The municipal government said that to minimize the impact of price hikes on public industries, the government will extend subsidies to agriculture-related, urban public transportation and other industries closely linked to the public interest.

80 million at risk from smoking and fuel use

By Han Manman

International scientists warn that 80 million Chinese people will die of lung disease over the next 25 years unless the government takes action to combat smoking and the indoor burning of fuel.

The newly-issued report researched by the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) has been sent to the Chinese government. The scientists warn that the government should immediately take measures to prevent deaths.

Half of all Chinese men smoke and more than 70 percent of Chinese households use solid fuels, such as wood, straw and coal for heating and cooking, providing a potent source of indoor air pollution, the study found.

If current levels of smoking and house-

hold use of biomass fuel continues, there will be an estimated 65 million deaths from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and 18 million deaths from lung cancer by 2033, the study said.

It was also the first quantitative analysis of Chinese health problems. The researchers followed cases of disease caused by smoking and household fuel for five years to get the results.

"This analysis shows that smoking and fuel use, which affect hundreds of millions of people in China, will be a defining feature of future health in that country," Hsien-Ho Lin, from HSPH and the lead author of the study, said.

"Policy responses and specific interventions could help reduce the enormous disease burden significantly," Majid Ezzati,

professor of HSPH and senior author of the study, said. He said that at the national level, authorities should create regulatory and economic policies that reduce smoking and promote clean household fuels.

"If China manages to control tobacco through taxation, health education and advertising bans, and if it manages to get clean fuel to the 70 percent of its population that needs cleaner fuels, they have a lot of health gains to make," he said.

"The study is a good reminder for the Chinese government to make relevant policies and emphasize the urgent need for tobacco control and expedition of gas fuel as a replacement for solid fuel in China," Zhong Nanshan, from Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Diseases, said.

Brief news

Beijing-Shijiazhuang railway under construction

Construction began on a high-speed passenger rail between Beijing and Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, Tuesday, the Ministry of Railway (MOR) said.

The Beijing-Shijiazhuang line is expected to be completed and operational in four years. Once in operation, this new line should cut the journey from Beijing to Shijiazhuang from 119 minutes to less than 60 minutes, the ministry said.

Beijing Olympic park to reopen, free to citizens

The Olympic park is expected to reopen to citizens on Friday after it was closed on Monday for dismantling of certain facilities.

Beijing residents can enter the common area of the park, otherwise called Olympic Green, but they still need to buy tickets for the Bird's Nest and the Water Cube, two major Olympic venues.

China launches institution for village's water supply

A national association for water supply and water-efficiency technology in rural areas was launched Tuesday by the Ministry of Water Resources. The move was the latest initiative to enhance agricultural production and improve farmers' livelihood.

Water resources minister Chen Lei said there were 200 million rural residents with no access to safe drinking water. Rural areas suffered a water shortage of about 30 billion cubic meters annually.

Man, 121, tops list of oldest people in China

A list of China's 10 oldest people was announced for the first time by the Gerontology Association on Monday.

The 121-year-old Sadiq Sawut from the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region topped the list as the oldest man, while Maihefu Zihan, from the same region, was the oldest woman at 118.

Six of the 10 oldest people live in Xinjiang, and the other four are in Gansu, Hainan, Henan and Hunan. Eight are from minority ethnic groups.

(By Han Manman)

Mao's former airplane not available to foreign buyers

By Jackie Zhang

A Trident made in Britain and said to be the airplane used by Chairman Mao is on sale in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province. "We never thought of being famous or making money off Chairman Mao. We never expected this," Wang Zhilei, who is responsible for the affair, said.

News that Zhuhai Ridong Group, a civil enterprise, was selling the plane for 8 million yuan broke Monday on the Internet. Many are discussing whether Chairman Mao had used this plane before, and are curious to know who will be the new owner.

"We are selling the plane

because we want to make more parking space in Ridong Square, where the plane is being showcased now," Wang said, "We didn't make any advertisements, nor did we tell the media. We are surprised the news can attract so many people's attention and discussion on the Internet."

Wang said the company was worried about the online discussion and media reports. "We don't want to make money off Mao's name," Wang said that the company would not halt its sale.

Wang said the government imported the airplane from Pakistan in 1969 and it was given to Chairman Mao to use. Since the airplane was retired in 1986,

it was kept in Beijing Xijiao Airport. In 1999, Ridong Group bought the plane and stored it in Ridong Square.

"The plane is well-kept both inside and out and has been shown in the square almost 10 years. We bought it to attract people but never told anyone it was Chairman Mao's special plane," Wang confirmed the plane used to be Chairman Mao's special plane. "We never received any evidence from the seller, but they gave us bills which are kept in the company now. Before we bought the airplane, an authorized person said it was Chairman Mao's and seated around 100 passengers," Wang told *Nan-*

fang Daily Tuesday.

The plane is being sold for 8 million yuan. "We don't want to auction the plane," Wang said. "The company spent lots of money to buy and transport it from Beijing to Zhuhai. Furthermore, we have maintained the plane for many years. Eight million yuan can only help us balance our cost."

Since the sale was announced, the company has received numerous inquiries. "Every day, we answer lots of calls. So far, no one confirmed he would buy the plane," Wang also stressed that he wanted to keep the airplane in China, so he would not sell the plane to any foreigners.

Nude artist makes point in cage

By Milo Lee

Most progressive modern arts are accepted in China, but performance art that involves erotica and nudity still raises eyebrows: especially when performed by a woman.

Last Sunday, Hairong Tiantian, a famous nude performance artist and feminist, locked herself in an iron cage at Must Be Contemporary art center in 798 Art Zone and started her new performance titled *The Decameron*. For 10 days, she will pose naked in the cage and share her thoughts on feminism with visitors.

The cage is welded with iron panels and shaped like a woman's body. Through the square holes all over the cage, Hairong Tiantian wants to show what it is like to be a white-collar woman in the big city. The sitting position symbolizes the way most career women spend their days, and the holes in the cage represent people being exposed to the public helplessly in today's fast-evolving society. In her blog, Hairong Tiantian said she wants to imitate the working state of those 9-to-5ers who live and work in a depressive atmosphere.

In the final days of the display, she will face the leering gaze of visitors and communicate with her fans over the Internet.

In 2007, Hairong Tiantian first posed naked in a performance art called *Lotus*, which, together with her second act, conveys her view on how women are affected by gender, job and family in mainstream society. To Hairong Tiantian, her body is an important part to express her feminism. The nude body is sacred and full of vigor and vitality: the cold cage is a downsized version of the modern male-dominated city. Nudity in a cage stands for the struggle between the soft and the hard.

Many netizens questioned why the performance was linked with erotica and nudity. Art critic Zhu Qi said her performance was amateur, because other female artists have chosen other means of expression.

1,500-ton old church shifted for reservation



Due to a local road-expansion project, Fuzhou government has decided to shift a 1,500-ton church built in 1932.

CFP Photo

Shady surrogate mother service showed up in Guangzhou

By Venus Lee

Surrogacy, a sensitive topic in China, is booming in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province. There are some agencies promoting it online and combing the streets for new hires, *Information Times*, a Guangzhou-based newspaper, reported.

It sent a reporter to make secret inquiries into the living conditions of surrogate mothers in Guangzhou. The reporter contacted one of the surrogate's Web site and asked to see s surrogate mother's home.

According to the report, four 30-year-old surrogate mothers were living in a small apartment in a community beside Nanfang Hospital.

One of the women from Guizhou Province who said she was five months into her pregnancy said custody of her child was awarded to her ex-husband by a court. To get her child back and earn money, she chose to be a surrogate mother. She said she

missed her child, but could only phone him occasionally since the company prohibited her from leaving the apartment.

Another woman three months into her pregnancy said the baby's father never visited her, but that her client asked her to eat six to seven meals per day and gave her 2,000 yuan per month. The woman said hers and another woman's fetus belonged to the same client who chose two surrogates to conceive his child.

These surrogate mothers said they were willing to give up the baby because they did not consider it their own, and do not want their relatives and friends to know about their job, the newspaper said.

"The cost ranges from 150,000 to 250,000 yuan in total, but the client has to pay 100,000 yuan to the surrogate mother in advance. If a foreign client wants to apply for such a service, he must find a Chinese guarantor first, and

the cost will be the same," a staff member from the surrogate agency said.

Yin Jianping, a lawyer with T&D Associates Attorneys at Law, did not advocate such behavior. "Although there is no specific law to regulate this, a human cannot be used in the transaction. Such behavior would breach the Marriage Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law and Population and Family Planning Law," he said.

"As long as the baby is born, the surrogate mother and natural father are the recognized parents of the child. So it may trigger a series of disputes ranging from right of property inheritance to guardianship. Although they are trading the baby's maintenance obligations and guardianship, their contracts and rights are not protected by law," he said.

Laws regarding surrogate motherhood are an urgent problem demanding a solution in China, Yin said.

Bus driver fired for clipping nails while driving

By Wang Yu

A bus driver was sacked after demonstrating his "acrobatic skills" on the highway as he clipped his nails during a broadcast by Zhujiang TV, a Guangdong Province station.

In the video clip, Chen, the bus driver, drove 31 passengers on the highway from Guangzhou to Zhanjiang while clipping his nails and steering with his elbows. He counted money while driving and filled his cup with water while both his hands were off the steering wheel.

The video, shot by a passenger, spread rapidly on the Internet. It called public attention to traffic safety on long-distance buses.

The Guangzhou Municipal Committee of Communication held a meeting Tuesday.

"The driver's behavior put the passengers in danger," Xian Weixiong, director of the committee, said. Chen was fired and buses on the Guangzhou-Zhanjiang line were stopped for seven days as a penalty. Buses from other transportation companies will fill the vacancy.

In September, the 6,550 long-distance buses in Guangzhou had GPS systems installed to monitor driving conditions.



Chen uses his elbows to control the wheel.



Chen counts notes while driving.



Chen drinks water with his hands completely off the wheel.



Chen clips his nails while driving.

Photos from online video clips

Reporter blog helps to start deadly landslide inquiry

By Han Manman

The State Council launched an investigation Monday into a deadly landslide that buried a village in Shanxi Province, killing 44. The council said officials initially downplayed the scale of the tragedy.

The investigation was carried out after Premier Wen Jiabao and State Councilor Ma Kai noticed a reporter's blog, which said the August Shanxi landslide was not a natural disaster but a cover-up. The real death toll was far higher than the local authorities reported, he said.

Sun Chunlong, a reporter from Oriental Outlook, wrote an open letter to the governor of Shanxi Province on September 14, appealing to the government to further investigate problems related to the accident. Sun wrote that 30 other

villagers were trapped.

"We couldn't rule out the possibility of a cover-up in the fatal landslide in Shanxi Province on August 1," Huang Yi, an official of the State Administration of Work Safety spokesman, said Tuesday.

"We suspect a cover-up and are seeking evidence," Huang said.

The death toll reported by the local government remained unchanged at 11, even seven weeks later, the official noted. Investigators sent by the State Council recovered 41 bodies in only one week.

Human error was to blame for the landslide, which was caused when a waste dump from an iron mine collapsed, burying Sigou Village on August 1 in the suburbs of the provincial capital Taiyuan, Deputy Director of the State Administration of Work Safety Wang

Dexue said.

Wang heads a 49-member team formed to investigate the accident. "We are almost certain it's not just a natural disaster," he told Xinhua. "We need to find out the direct and indirect causes of the accident and whether the tragedy was covered up or downplayed in the first place."

Workers at the iron mine dumped too much waste on loose earth and local safety authorities failed to evacuate villagers in time, Wang said.

The State Administration of Work Safety will unveil its blacklist of involved enterprises where big accidents occurred recently, including Shanxi mud-rock flow and Shenzhen nightclub fire. Huang said industry and commerce bureaus, banks and insurance firms should punish them.



The scene of the Sigou landslide.

Xinhua Photo



Cui Jun

By Jackie Zhang

"We are posting all our savings - 100,000 yuan - as a bounty for whoever finds and arrests the two men who killed my son. It is the last wish of my wife and I," Cui Ying'an, whose son was killed last year, said in an online posting.

Cui Jun was killed last September by three men called in by Tu Qihua from Heilong Group in Wanzhou, Chongqing City. Cui Jun was killed because the family refused to move for a relocation project developed by the Chongqing Heilong Group.

Conflict ended after son's death

Heilong Group is a local real estate enterprise. In order to build a new community in the area, Cui's family and 10 other families were required to move out.

"We didn't want to cause any problems for the company. But they didn't give us enough money to buy a new house, nor did they give us another house to move into. We had no option but to keep on living there. Furthermore, the group did not have permission to show that they had a right to tear down our homes," Qin Wanlan, Cui Jun's mother, said.

In order to drive people out of the area, the group asked managers to block their water and electricity supplies. The other families moved out one after another. Only Cui's family remained.

Last September, the staff from the group threatened the family again. "We got used to their threats, but we didn't know the tragedy that would befall my son

Parents' last hope

The arrest of the killers



Cuijun's mother holds a picture of her son's killers.

Photos provided by Cui Ying'an

the next day," Qin said. The next day, Cui Jun was killed. Cui Ying'an and Qin Wanlan's lives were shattered.

Our last hope

After Cui Jun's death, Tu Qihua voluntarily surrendered to the local police and helped the police to arrest one of the criminals, Wang Yihua. This August, Tu was sentenced to 12 years in prison and Wang was sentenced to life imprisonment. However,

Ran Qifu and Shi Guanghui remain on the run.

Since their son's death, his old parents have moved out of the house with little compensation from the group. "Money does not mean anything to us now. Our health is worsening every day. We are afraid we won't see the killers arrested while we are alive," Qin said in tears. "So we decided to put up our savings as a bounty to mobilize more people to help us

find the criminals."

Qin and Cui pasted paper notices in Chongqing. "Next we'll go to Chengdu and other nearby cities to put up notice. Our relatives lived in other cities will help us as well," he said. Since the notice was released online, Cui only received a few calls asking whether they would really give the 100,000 yuan prize-but none of them had any idea how to catch the criminals.

Police response

Guan Huai (pseudonym) was the responsible officer in Cui Jun's case. He said he disagreed with the old couple's action.

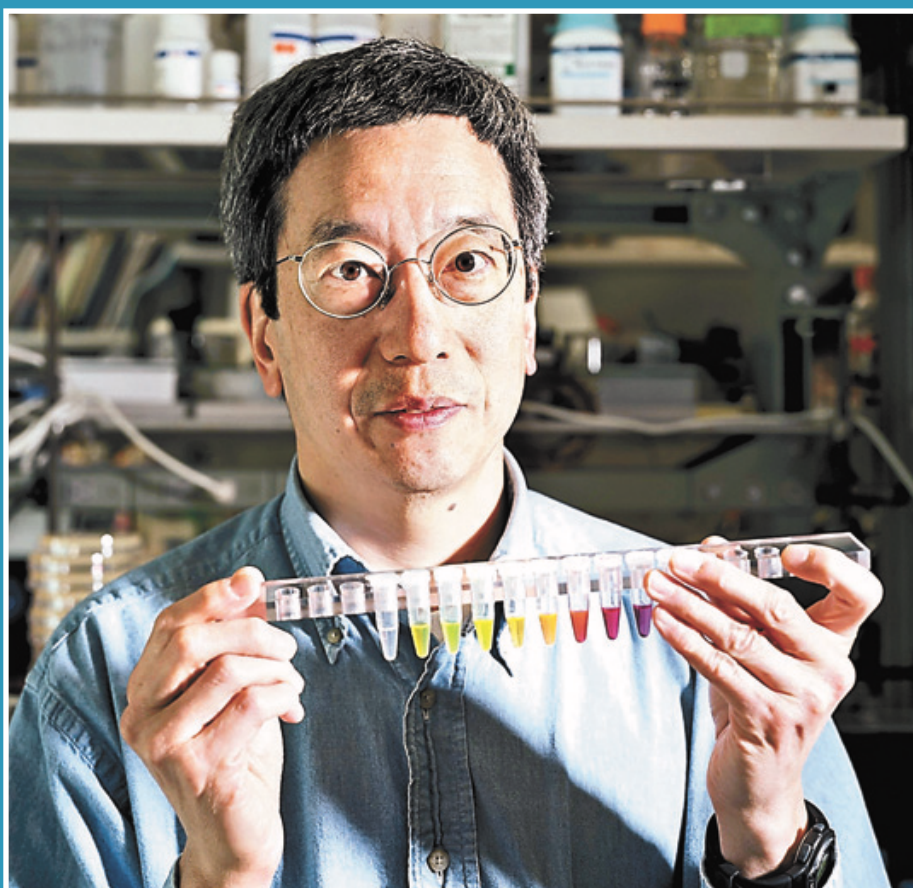
"We released a nationwide arrest warrant for the two criminals with a 5,000-yuan reward. They shouldn't issue another bounty," Guan said. "Two of the criminals are sentenced. We are trying hard to arrest the other two. We believe Ran and Shi are still in Chongqing."

2008



The Nobel Prize season starts again on Monday, still without a Chinese winner. What's wrong? How far away is China from the Nobel Prize?

Nobel Prize season kicks off

5
Outlook

Chinese American Roger Tsien shares the 2008 Chemistry prizewith American Martin Chalfie and Japanese Osamu Shimomura
Xinhua/AFP Photo

The 2008 Nobel Prize season begins on Monday with the announcement of the Medicine Prize, and will run through October 13.

The award committees never drop any hints about the winners in the run-up to the announcements, leaving observers in a state of frenzied speculation. In recent decades, Americans have tended to dominate the science prizes - medicine, physics, chemistry and economics - though last year the Europeans prevailed. But to date, no Chinese scientists have won the prize.

American Chinese won chemistry prize

While there have been no Chinese winners, an American-Chinese scientist, Roger Tsien, nephew of China's leading space scientist Qian Xuesen, shared the 2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry on Wednesday with American Martin Chalfie and Japanese researcher Osamu Shimomura.

The three were crowned for their discovery of a glowing jellyfish protein that makes cells, tissues and even organs light up - a tool used by thousands of researchers around the world.

"Green fluorescent proteins allow scientists quite literally to see the growth of cancer

and study Alzheimer's disease and other conditions that affect millions of people," said Bruce Bursten, president of the American Chemical Society.

Tsien, 56, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, used coral proteins, and extended the palette beyond green to yellow, blue, and other colors, allowing scientists to follow several different biological processes at the same time.

He said asthma kept him indoors as a child, so he spent hours playing with colors as part of chemistry experiments in his basement.

Peace Prize should go to the 'right person'

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said recently that the Nobel Peace Prize should be awarded to the "right person".

Liu made the remarks at a regular news briefing in response to a question that the Norwegian Nobel Committee could give the peace prize to Hu, a Chinese national, who is now in jail for subverting the state.

"If the Nobel Peace Prize is to be awarded to the people who indeed safeguard world peace, we think it should go to the right person," he said.

On April 3, Hu Jia was sentenced by the Beijing No. 1

Intermediate People's Court to three and half years imprisonment, with one year's deprivation of political rights. The verdict found Hu, an unemployed father aged 34 and the holder of a college degree, guilty of libel against the Chinese political and social systems, and subversion of the state, which is a crime under Chinese law.

Other prizes

For Monday's Medicine Prize, three European scientists, Francoise Barre-Sinoussi and Luc Montagnier from France and Germany's Harald zur Hausen, shared the prize for separate discoveries of viruses that cause AIDS and cervical cancer, breakthroughs that have helped doctors fight the deadly diseases.

The Economics Prize announcement is due on October 13.

The current financial crisis is not expected to play a role in the prize committee's deliberations this year, but it could affect future choices. One of the economic doctrines most often prized by the committee - market liberalism - is being blamed by many for today's woes, and observers say the committee may in the future focus on macroeconomic stabilization theories or new chaos theories. (Agencies)

Why have the Chinese not yet won a Nobel?

By Huang Daohen

Whenever the Nobel Prize season begins, it always triggers the excitement of the Chinese people, who are eager to see their country to be awarded a prize for scientific research, an honor to which they have attached great importance. But with a population of 1.3 billion, how is it that China has yet to win a Nobel Science Prize? How far away is China from the Nobel Prize?

The examination-oriented education system and its bureaucratic characteristics are two problems that must be solved before China can win its first science Nobel Prize, astronomer Wang Shouwan of the

Chinese Academy of Sciences said. "Among those under age 50, China has demonstrated strong support for scientific and technological talents. The quality of researchers and the level and number of research programs are as excellent as those of advanced countries," Wang said.

However, that does not mean China can win the Nobel Prize just because it has invested enormous physical and financial resources. "The problem is that although the country has offered strong support, it is still lacking in key scientific achievements embodied by the Nobel Prize and this problem needs our attention," he said.

US judge orders Guantanamo Uighurs free

(AFP) - A US federal judge has ordered a group of 17 Chinese Muslim Uighurs held at the Guantanamo Bay military jail in Cuba to be released in the US, officials have said.

It was the first time a court has ordered that "war on terror" prisoners detained at the US base should be released onto US soil, and the government of President George W Bush swiftly said it planned to appeal the decision.

The 17 Muslim Uighurs were officially declared no longer "enemy combatants" by the government earlier this year, but officials had maintained they could continue to hold the men at Guantanamo Bay if no other country accepted them.

The White House condemned the ruling saying it paved the way for extremists to demand the same freedom, and added it would continue to work to find another country to take in the men.

"The district court's ruling, if allowed to stand, could be used as precedent for other detainees held at Guantanamo Bay, including sworn enemies of the United States suspected of planning the attacks of 9/11, who may also seek release into our country," spokeswoman Dana Perino said in a statement Tuesday.

Judge Ricardo Urbina ordered that the 17 men be brought before him in Washington on Friday to be introduced to some Uighur families who will take them in.

Another hearing will be organized on October 16 to determine under what conditions the men should be allowed to reside in the



US federal judge freed a group of 17 Chinese Muslim Uighurs.

Xinhua Photo

United States, and what status they should be given.

China hopes the US will repatriate suspected Chinese terrorists as soon as possible, the Foreign Ministry said here on Tuesday.

"China has repeatedly demanded the United States to repatriate the Chinese terrorists being held in Guantanamo Bay. We hope the US side can look seriously at China's position and repatriate the above-mentioned people as soon as possible," Spokesman Qin Gang said.

Qin added terrorism is a common threat to the whole world and it's the responsibility of all countries to strike out terrorism. "Double standards must not be adopted in this regard."

China cuts interest rates amid market crisis

By Huang Daohen

China's central bank on Wednesday announced key interest rate cuts for the second time in less than a month to boost the domestic economy amid worries over the deepening global financial crisis.

The deposit and lending rates were lowered 0.27 percentage points yesterday, and the reserve requirement ratio will be reduced 0.5 percentage points from October 15, the People's Bank of China said in a statement.

The central bank previously cut the benchmark one year lending rate by 0.27 percentage points on September 16, the first rate cut in six years. It also lowered the reserve requirement for medium- and small-sized lenders by one percentage point on September 25.

The government made this move mainly out of concern over domestic problems, as the deepening US subprime crisis continues to

impact the Chinese economy, Kang Yan, partner of Roland Berger Strategy Consultants in China, said. "Though we still don't know the effect of the cuts, one thing is for sure, the country is determined to save the economy, and it is part of a coordinated effort to solve the global crisis," he said.

China's move is part of a concerted effort by global central banking authorities to respond to the global crisis. In a coordinated move, the US Federal Reserve cut key US interest rates by half a percentage point Wednesday to steady an economy teetering on collapse, a situation reminiscent of the 1929 stock market crash. In Europe, which also has been hard hit by the financial crisis, the Bank of England cut its rate by half a point to 4.5 percent, while the European Central Bank sliced its rate to 3.75 percent.

Other central banks also taking part, include banks in Canada,



Global stock markets have dropped to a historic low amid the deepening financial crisis.

Xinhua Photo

Sweden, and Switzerland. "The pace of economic activity has slowed markedly in recent months," the Federal Reserve said. "Moreover, the intensification of

this turmoil is likely to create additional restraints on spending, partly by further reducing the ability of households and businesses to obtain credit."

External effects

G7 should be replaced

The Group of Seven (G7) rich nations is no longer effective and should be replaced by a new group that is composed of emerging economic powers like China, India and Brazil, World Bank President Robert Zoellick said on Monday.

In a speech ahead of meetings of G7 finance leaders in Washington this weekend, Zoellick said the global financial crisis was a "wake-up call" that required broader cooperation across more countries.

"The G7 is not working. We need a better group for a different time," Zoellick said, referring to the rich-country group of the US, Canada, Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Japan. "The new multilateralism, suiting our times, will need to be a flexible network, not a fixed unitary system," Zoellick said. "It needs to maximize the strengths

of interconnecting and overlapping actors and institutions, public and private."

He said the new group should include finance ministers from China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Saudi Arabia and Russia.

(Agencies)

Market crisis erodes China fortunes

(FT) — China's top 50 richest people lost almost a third of their wealth in the past year, the first decline since 2002, according to Hurun's 2008 China Rich List, published Tuesday.

Steep declines in China's stock and property markets took their toll on the richest 50, but the average wealth of the country's 800 richest people fell by only 8 percent, according to Rupert Hoogewerf, compiler of the list.

He says China's rich are surviving the credit crunch in better shape than expected: China still has 101 US dollar billionaires,

"only five fewer than last year," and the Hurun list has been expanded from 800 to 1,000 people, all of whom must have US \$100 million to qualify. The first Hurun Rich List, in 1999, included only 50 people, with a cut-off of US \$6 million.

Wall Street still the financial capital

By Venus Lee

The financial crisis on Wall Street is becoming more and more severe, so much that many people have begun to cast their hopes on other cities. Some of them even claim that Beijing will become the next financial center.

But some financial observers think that New York still possesses great advantages, and as the Wall Street has developed for over 100 years, it is not likely to be defeated anytime soon. According to a study on the world's most competitive financial centers conducted by Washington Post last

week, although the importance of Asian and Middle Eastern cities has increased significantly while Paris and Frankfurt slipped slightly, New York and London have remained in the lead.

As for whether Beijing will become next financial center or not, Zhang Ming, a researcher from the Institute of World Economics and Politics at the Chinese Academy of Social Science, did not agree. "The Wall Street finance crisis triggered by subprime mortgage has indeed stricken the world finance market and US dollar position, but Wall Street as world financial center is still irreplaceable for a pretty long time." He continued, "As a financial center, a city must be capable of mobilizing global resources to service companies all over the world. Beijing is so far only capable of mobilizing domestic and some foreign resources to provide services for global firms and markets."

Most globally competitive Chinese companies released



Charles-Edouard Bouee

Photo provided Roland Berger

By Huang Daohen

A business contest reflecting the competitiveness of Chinese companies in the era of globalization was released Wednesday here in Beijing. Companies such as Lenovo Holding, Huawei Technologies, Chery Automobile and China National Offshore Oil Corporation are among the winners.

The contest, the Top 20 Most Globally Competitive Chinese Companies 2008, was jointly organized by Roland Berger Strategy Consultants and Global Entrepreneur Magazine.

Beginning in April this year, the contest analyzed publicly available data from a total of 200 Chinese companies doing business in Europe and the United States. These companies were evaluated according to three dimensions and

their performance was assessed based on eight criteria.

Despite its name, this business contest is not identical to the Best of European Business, a competition run by Roland Berger and The Financial Times to highlight the best practices of European companies, Charles-Edouard Bouee, president of Roland Berger Strategy Consultants, said. "The focus of this competition is to recognize outstanding Chinese firms doing business overseas, and we aim to spur a discussion on how companies can strategically prepare for their global expansion and highlight best practice examples," Bouee said.

The 20 representative companies have seen rapid growth in overseas income in recent years, and half of the 20 awarded firms have an annual sales income above 100

billion yuan. However, the overseas sales revenue this year constitutes a smaller proportion in gross proceeds from sales compared to 2007, the contest found. Bouee said the decline could be interpreted as a stabilization phase, suggesting that Chinese companies having gradually entered into a stable stage of development after their rapid growths.

For Chinese companies expanding their overseas businesses, the president said two overarching themes are important. HR and management are areas that Chinese companies must be careful to master when going abroad, especially in Europe. "And the second is what we call strategy branding, which is building a brand that stands for the consumers, that stands for the suppliers, and stands for the employees," Bouee said.

Citibank China to set up two rural lending firms

(Reuters) — Citigroup's banking unit in China said on Tuesday that it had received the go-ahead to establish two lending companies in rural areas, expanding its presence in the countryside.

The companies, in Gonggan and Chibi in the central province of Hubei, would open in the coming months after obtaining approval from the provincial branch of the banking regulator, Citi said in a statement.

"We understand the imperative to contribute to the further development of financial services in rural China, and we believe these lending companies represent a compelling business model that will support the accomplishment of this objective," said Andrew Au, chief executive of Citi China.

Shama eyes Beijing serviced apartments market

By Han Manman

Shama, a boutique serviced apartment operator whose major shareholders include Morgan Stanley Real Estate and Gateway Capital, recently opened its first Beijing property, Shama Luxe Chang An, to cater to high-income expat corporate clients in Beijing.

"As China's economy continues to expand, foreign investment will continue to flow into Beijing and more multi-national corporations will establish regional offices here, which will result in an increasing need for expatriate accommodation. With the opening of Shama Chang An, Shama is now better positioned to take advantage of this growth," Elaine Young, chief executive officer of Shama, said.

Designed by top Hong Kong designer Steve Leung, Shama Chang An is a modern residential complex of 225 contemporary and chic apartments ranging from studio to two-bedroom layouts.

The CEO said that Shama's target demographic is the international businessman. "The boutique serviced apartment is quite new to the Beijing market, but it is not new to the type of customer we are targeting, who wants to relocate to Beijing."

Shama's biggest shareholder is Morgan Stanley Real Estate, which holds 70 percent of Shama's business. When asked whether Shama was affected by the current great American financial crisis, Elaine Young said, "Luckily, Shama is totally safe and not exposed to the problems of America."

Having entered the mainland market last March by opening Shama Xintiandi in Shanghai, Shama is now looking for more assets in Beijing. "Always after hosting an Olympics, the host city's real estate market will go down. But I do believe there will be huge potential in Beijing's real estate market and we will look for more properties here," Elaine Young said.

According to Elaine Young, Shama also aims to become the market leader in Asia. This month, a new Shama apartment will be opened in India, where Elaine Young believes it will have the same business potential as in China.

Panicked passenger dies after being tied down overnight

By Huang Daohen

A migrant worker suspected of having a mental disorder died on a train after he was tied down overnight by staff for causing a disturbance to other passengers, according to the Guangzhou-based *Southern Metropolis Daily*.

The death of the worker, Cao Dahe, has led some witnesses to recount their stories this week on the Internet, ruing their failure to intervene and possibly save the man's life.

The train No. 1291 travels between Guangzhou and Zunyi. Cao, 30, boarded on September 24 in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, heading for his hometown of Zunyi in Guizhou.

Cao had finished a day's work at a factory in Foshan city, Guangdong, and was accompanied by two fellow villagers.

According to the victim's younger brother, Cao Dajun, Cao was healthy but appeared to become mentally disturbed one day and started to yell out. Cao Dajun had called his family to discuss the matter and they had decided Cao should be taken back to his hometown.

Shortly after Cao boarded the train, he stood up frequently and shouted loudly. Cheng Zhunqiang, a passenger in the same car as Cao and one of the first people to post his experience online, wrote on the Tianya forum: "During the trip, the man would suddenly get up and shout some things out. There were no arguments or physical actions. After the train had run for about an hour, the man got up again and acted as if he wanted to jump out of the

window while yelling."

Some passengers complained to the onboard security guards, who alerted the train manager. The manager agreed to tie Cao up.

Cao begged the other passengers on the train to cut him loose, but no one helped. He kept yelling throughout the night, Cheng said.

Cheng said he asked security to release Cao at 7 am the next day, but was denied. Some time after 9 am, the train manager ordered several more knots be added to ensure Cao wouldn't escape.

Cao died about 10 minutes later. At noon on September 25, the train stopped at Laibin station, Guangxi Province and the body was unloaded.

Cao's body was cremated on September 30 in Guiyang City, Guizhou and his ashes were buried by relatives on Monday.

The railway operator paid the family 120,000 yuan in compensation.

Cao Dajun said the family hadn't decided if they would sue the railway authority because they were still waiting for the autopsy report.

The train manager was suspended from his position and is under investigation, according to the Chengdu Railway Administration, which oversees the railway operation in Guizhou.

Disturbances on trains are not uncommon. Each year, millions of Chinese migrant workers travel to big cities to make a living. At the traditional Chinese New Year or national holidays, most of them return home and the most popular means of transport is by train.



The public doubt whether it was necessary to tie the man up overnight.

Photo provided by Southern Metropolis Daily

Comments

Train manager lacked consideration

I can understand orders to tie the man up given by the train manager since I have had a similar experience in a crowded train in China, especially during the golden week vacation. It's a horrible situation and the manager needs to keep order in the cabin. Only this time, the manager ignored the passenger's physical problems.

— Jeff Johnson, US teacher

I despise myself

Why did I harbor sympathy but take no action? If I had taken some action, none of this would have happened. I hate myself for choosing silence as did the

majority. I despise myself.

— Huang, passenger on the train

Wrong to tie him up

Even if Cao was mentally ill it was wrong to tie him up that way. He should have been kept under the watch of his friends in the conductor's room or somewhere similar.

— Jun Chen, editor

Good for Cheng

Cheng Zhunqiang's behavior should be praised. A total stranger not only had the courage to oppose Cao being tied up, but he even personally removed the tape and insisted on keeping him company. He took the time and effort to do what should have

been the duty of the family.

— Tong Wang, blogger

Online posts misleading

I've read some of the online posts and some important details have been omitted. They didn't match the results of the current investigation. If you seriously think about the post you will discover a problem: how could a train manager murder a passenger in front of more than 100 passengers?

I think the police will provide an explanation for this and I ask people to trust there will be a fair and equitable outcome.

— Mu Zejun, official at the Chengdu Railway Administration

Students required to run long distance for fitness



The "must-run policy" causes controversy among the public.
CFP Photo

By Zhang Dongya

Schools throughout the Chinese mainland have received a notice from the Ministry of Education on a nationwide long-distance winter running scheme to begin on October 26 requiring students to run a certain distance every day.

According to the notice from the Ministry of Education, the General Administration of Sport, and the Chinese Communist Youth League, the required distance for elementary students will be 1,000 meters a day, with 1,500 meters a day for middle school students, and 2,000 meters a day for high school and college students.

The scheme will last until April and is aimed at strengthening students' constitution and improving their health.

This is the second time that the nationwide long-distance running scheme will be held. This year, the goal for the total distance of the run is at least 60 miles, to celebrate the 60-year history of the People's Republic in 2009.

According to the notice, a starting ceremony will be held in Beijing on October 26. Provinces and cities are required to hold a provincial or municipal ceremony on the same day.

Each school is required to record the total distance its students run during the entire scheme. Schools, classes and students of good performance will be praised and cited at the end of the event. Students' performances in this half-year event will be noted in their record of academic achievement.

Comment

One stroke cannot meet all

It is true that students' health has declined in recent years so the intention to build up their bodies is good. However, diverse problems cannot be solved with a single solution. There is a great difference between winters in the north and the south in our country, and some southern areas are not suitable for long-distance running since some even don't have winter.

Therefore, carrying out different activities is more practical than just asking students to run every day at school. Improving students' health is not a short-term goal, and it is not proper to impose such a rash policy.

— Ye Zhuqi, media

Hard to carry out

This is no doubt a good measure that will be helpful to cultivate good exercise habits in students. However, I have to say it will be hard to carry out, since students have nowhere to run! Most schools face the problem of lacking a sports field. Though the notice said "schools should not make stu-

dents run in the streets to avoid accidents", for those schools which have only a small playground or even no playground at all, where can they run?

— Li Changhong, commentator at the People's Daily

More of a pet project

The event is more like a pet project than a sports event — though 60 miles actually has nothing to do with the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, organizers still connect the two to give the number a symbolic meaning.

— Sheng Dalin, commentator

Healthy diet is necessary

Maintaining a healthy body requires two things: adequate exercise and a healthy diet. A precondition for the long-distance run should be making sure that the participants have healthy diets. If the government can provide a free, nutritious meal for students every day before they run, the long distance running activity might be a good move.

— Jiangbianke, Jiangsu official

A chance for Beijing's rock sound from America

By Wang Yu

Martin Atkins was sitting in front of a computer screen in a control room of A-string, one of the biggest music studio in Beijing. The former drummer of John Lydon's post-Sex Pistol band, Public Image Ltd. seemed to be tired after a whole day's work as the producer of a Chinese band AV Okubo. There are another two bands of the local record label Maybe Mars waiting for Atkins according to his schedule here in Beijing.

The British rock star in America

Atkins was born in Coventry in 1959 and is now best known as a drummer and session musician for his work in post-punk and industrial groups including Public Image Ltd., Ministry, Pigface and Killing Koke.

"I was always living in the center of the storm, in the end of 1970s I was with John Lydon in London, after that I moved to New York" said Atkins. Though he is British, the musician has lived in the States for a long

time and quiet like the feeling there. "Americans are more open to me," he said. Besides, Atkins gave lectures about music in many colleges and wrote a book called *Tour: Smart* which focuses on the management of touring features various of the managers, journalists, venues and the like.

Find the familiar energy in China

In October 2006, Atkins visited Beijing at the first time in order to discover the emerging Chinese music scene with his curiosity of a totally unfamiliar world. "In Beijing there is no one knows me and there is nothing connected with me either. No safety net," Atkins said.

During the whirlwind two-week visit, local bands such as Snapline and Subs were added to Atkins' Chicago-based Invisible Records and he also helped to produced Snapline's debut album "Party is over, Pornostar". "I love all the Bands in D22 (the club which is also started by Maybe Mars' boss Michael

Pettis). That was crazy," the musician said very exciting.

"The energy here let me connected with myself twenty years ago. The bands here are doing whatever they want to be creative not like those in the west who usually have a plan to become a star," Atkins said.

Promoters of Beijing's new sound

Michael Pettis, founder of Maybe Mars and D22 used to have the same feeling when he first came to Beijing and immediately started going to clubs to check out the music scene. To the New Yorker, most of the bands did good imitations of cool American or British bands, the audience was small and not very adventurous enough.

But the talent younger musicians here are sophisticated for their brand new sound and the potential of Beijing to be a major musical center promoted Pettis to started D22 and his record label.

"What are the staff of D22 are doing is supporting these

young musicians. Michael even bought a guitarist a guitar to help him to find his own sound. I am happy to see anybody to do that," Atkins said.

Atkins' Invisible Records also released *Look Directly Into the Sun: China Pop 2007* features 18 tracks from local Beijing bands. It is truly good exposure for the bands but the reality is that foreign musicians especially those from the east are still hanging around out of the sight of the American fans.

"Bring a Chinese band to the States is still risky because the audience of them may be just five or twenty a night and the business won't run well. So first you have to introduce them and all I am doing now is to show people in the States that there are huge and amazing things happening in Beijing musically," Atkins said.

Pop or rock?

In Beijing, the most city of energy and cultural diversity of China, rock music is still out of the mainstream and most of the



Martin Atkins

Photo by Wang Yu

normal audience here prefer those unimaginative pop songs from Hong Kong and Taiwan. That is the problem for a long time which has confused many rock promoters in China. "In 1970s, England was like that since young people grown up listen to the Beatles' love songs. They were looking for new sound of their own until punk showed up. It made straight ideas and was easy to understand," Atkins said

"But I think there is not a straight line between pop and rock, a band should absorb something pop to let the audience feel easy to receive the music. The bands are not doing well to this point as they have not realized it yet."

Breathe the French AIR

By He Jianwei

The French music duo AIR presented a show in Yugongyishan at the end of last month. It was the duo's first performance in Beijing. It brought its latest album *Pocket Symphony* for the appearance.

The band - Nicolas Godin and Jean Benoit Dunckel - released its first album *Moon Safari* in 1998. The name AIR is an abbreviation for Amour, Imagination and Reve, which means Love, Imagination and Dream in English.

French touch style

Godin and Dunckel made their debut alongside such artists as Alex Gopher and Daft Punk in the 1990s, contributing to the growth of "French touch" etiquette. They soon distinguished themselves from their contemporaries with subtle synth-pop, keyboard-heavy compositions, a dreamy and cinematic re-interpretation of music from the 1960s and 1970s.

Their music is influenced by synthesizer sounds of the 1970s, such as Jean Michel Jarre, Vangelis and Fancis Lai. Other influences include psychedelic rock pioneers Pink Floyd, Krautrockers, Jean-Jacques Perrey and French crooner Serge Gainsbourg.

AIR crafted a unique sound that is both futuristic and retro, not easily pegged, the sign of a true classic, unscathed by the passage of time. In China and all over the world AIR has drawn an impressive fan base and has influenced some of the best Chinese producers and musicians in today's music scene.

Cooperate with Sofia Coppola

AIR often collaborates, both in studio and on stage, with other artists. It worked with American film director Sofia Coppola to compose the music for Coppola's debut film *The Virgin Suicides*.

When Coppola was in Los Angeles, she heard AIR's first album *Moon Safari* and asked AIR whether they could make music for her first movie.

"The movie was sad. It was contrary to our music, which sounds mellow. We wanted to make something different from our previous works," Dunckel said.

Brian Reitzell worked with AIR as a drummer to prepare the soundtrack to Coppola's film *Lost in Translation*.

The soundtrack for Coppola's latest film *Marie Antoinette* also features a track by AIR.

Hope to work with Wong Kar-wai

AIR is the big fan of Wong Kar-wai, a renowned Hong Kong film director. They believed Wong's films share similarities with their music.

"The audience often didn't know where and when Wong's films took place. His films focus on relationship between man and woman. It is the same as our music," Godin said.

Romanticism links together with AIR's music and Wong's films. "As Wong's film *In the Mood for Love*, what he wanted to express is what we expressed in our music. We hope we can compose songs for Wong's film in the future."



The French duo composed the music to Sofia Coppola's debut film *The Virgin Suicides*.

Photo provided by Yugongyishan

Arab delegation visits Sichuan quake zone

By Zhang Dongya

Thirty-one foreign ambassadors and diplomatic envoys to China from 18 Arab countries visited Sichuan on Tuesday to view the reconstruction work and economic and social development following the May 12 earthquake and to discuss cooperation between the province and Arabic countries.

The ambassadors were from 14 countries including the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Their visit will last until Monday.

The delegation communicated with

local enterprises, which is expected to lead to the introduction of funds from Arab countries to support economic development and reconstruction. It will also promote new channels for mutual economic and trade cooperation.

The delegation will also head for Dujiangyan, one of the worst hit areas to visit quake survivors.

Following the disastrous earthquake, leaders from Arab countries and the League of Arab States (LAS) expressed their regards and sympathy by letters and telephone calls, and extended hands

to help China with donations of money and materials.

The United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia donated US\$ 50 million in cash and US\$ 10 million worth of materials for earthquake relief. Ambassadors from Arabic countries also donated blood to quake-stricken areas and helped transport materials in Sichuan.

According to statistics from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in August, donations from Arab countries reached 730 million yuan, of which 710 million yuan was directly from Arab governments.

Israel to open tourist office in Beijing

By Han Manman

As 80 members of the first Chinese tourist group to Israel finish their trip and return to China this week, Israel is preparing to establish a permanent tourist office in Beijing.

Israeli Minister for Tourism Ruhama Avraham-Balila pointed out the possibility at a press conference in Beijing last month. "China has a huge potential tourist market and opening a new office is aimed at attracting more Chinese to travel to Israel," she said.

Israel's goal is to bring in 15,000 Chinese tourists by the end of 2008, according to foreign press adviser to Israel's Ministry for Tourism Lydia Weitzma.

"Every year, some 50 million Chinese visit the area close to Israel, and we need to prepare to absorb some of that," said Balila, adding that the China-Israel travel agreement would ease the issuing of entrance visas for both countries.

According to the minister, preparations to receive Chinese tourists and adapt tourism products to meet their particular needs included training Chinese-speaking tour guides and chefs at hotel restaurants, recruiting Chinese-speaking employees in hotels and tourist spots, translating materials, maps, and brochures into Chinese, and providing courses to employees in the tourism industry on the unique aspects of Chinese culture.

In addition, Chinese tourists can use the Tourphone, a 24-hour hotline for tourists that offers information, directions, and even assistance in emergencies.

"Safety is always the most important thing to be thought of when traveling in Israel," Balila said.

"Israel is the most experienced country in dealing with terrorism and guaranteeing the safety of tourists. Terrorist activities that have happened in Israel have never been aimed at foreign tourists. So it is safe to travel here."

According to the minister, the Israeli Ministry of Tourism will publish a training manual for Chinese and Israeli tour operators who market tour packages in China.

The ministry is also making efforts to organize professional seminars, fact-finding tours to Israel for Chinese tour operators and joint meetings for Israeli and Chinese tourism professionals.

Cambridge chancellor strengthens Chinese ties

By Jackie Zhang

Alison Richard, vice-chancellor of the University of Cambridge, arrived in China this week with a delegation to strengthen ties as the special relationship between the university and China celebrates its 120-year anniversary.

"In 1888, Cambridge was the first British university to employ a Chinese professor," said Professor Richard at a press conference on Wednesday.

"120 years later, I'm here to celebrate the 800th birthday of the University of Cambridge and the 120th year of the relationship between China and the university."

According to Chinese popular opinion, the relationship between Cambridge and China began with Xu Zhimo (1897-1931), a famous Chinese poet who studied at Cambridge in 1920 for one year. When he returned to Cambridge in 1928, he wrote the famous poem *Second Farewell to Cambridge* (*Zaibie Kangqiao*).

"This summer we had a big event on campus to commemorate Xu," said Professor Richard. "We had a white marble stone of 2.5 tons transported from Beijing. The first and the last sentences of the poem were inscribed onto the marble. Now it is by the banks of the River Cam."

The large number of Chinese students

at Cambridge was another point Professor Richard mentioned. "Chinese students are the second largest group at the university after British students. Jin Yong, the famous Chinese writer, is taking his PHD degree at Cambridge. Although he is over 80, he is a good student."

The partnership between Cambridge and Chinese academies is perhaps the most important. During Professor Richard's visit this week, she signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

"For universities, Cambridge already has MOUs with Tsinghua University and Peking University. But actually the academic partnership is not pushed by a vice-chancellor. Many of the colleges and departments in Cambridge have collaborations with Chinese universities," she said.

Asked whether Chinese universities were weak in cultivating Nobel Prize-winning scientists next to the 80 prize-winning graduates of Cambridge, Professor Richard disagreed.

"Chinese universities are young and still growing. I believe that it won't be long before a Chinese scientist will be awarded the Nobel Prize as well."



Alison Richard



The marble inscribed with Xu Zhimo's poem now is lying along the bank of the River Cam.

Photos provided by British Embassy



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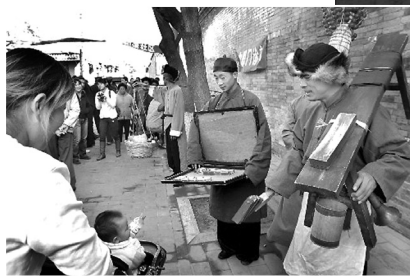
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Nanluoguxiang culture festival still on hold



Vendors sell traditional Beijing curios.

By Zheng Lu

It has been a year since the last Creative Market was held on Nanluoguxiang, and those who want to visit again and enjoy the festivities still have to wait patiently due to a postponement.

"The organizer promised me the other day the activities would begin this weekend, but this week I was informed they cancelled it," said Dominic Johnson Hill, owner of Plastered T-shirts, a shop on Nanluoguxiang that's full of Beijing cultural elements. Hill is also one of the sponsors of last year's Creative Market, and his shop has attracted many to return for this year's festival.

During the two days of activities, there will be a flea market with fifty designers presenting their works. None of them are full-time designers, but they love to create and invent things in their spare time. The works usually include notebooks, clothes, bags and decorations. This year's festival is on a much larger scale than the last one, in terms of the number of registrations.

Hill has invited many young Chinese musicians from different cities to play live music at the market. "They will walk around and play folk music,



Puppet-skin show attracts expat audience.

Xinhua Photo

rock'n'roll and other things." Hill also said that last year, elderly ladies from local neighborhood committees dressed in T-shirts designed by him and performed a yangge dance, a traditional folk dance in north-west China.

Another activity to be held together with the Creative Market in Nanluoguxiang is the Hutong Culture Festival.

"We hope it will be a mix of traditional and modern culture," said an official at the Jiaodaokou Community Office in Dongcheng district surnamed Chen.

Chen said the Community Office had arranged ten booths for old Beijing artists to show and sell their crafts in the hutongs, and a stage would be set up for folk dance performances, including a lion dance that would be performed twice a day during the festival.

This time, visitors will have the opportunity to taste Beijing snacks and watch traditional skills. One can find many popular snacks here, such as Bingtanghulu, a stick of sugar-coated haws that brings back childhood memories for many Beijingers.

Speaking of the festival, Chen said, "Nanluoguxiang itself is a hutong, a vessel full of history. Now it has some modern elements and enjoys a new popularity with young people. This phenomenon represents the development of traditional hutongs and offers opportunities for other old alleys."

Chen said the festival would start at the end of this month. "It will be much colder," Dominic joked when asked about what would be the most different thing this time compared to the last one held in September.

Event

Illustrated Talk: Corridors and Bridges in Zhejiang

Li Yuxiang, a famous photographer and author of several books about architecture in Anhui, Zhejiang and Fujian provinces, will share his photos of the corridors and bridges of Fujian and Zhejiang, and talk about the Heritage Protection projects he has been involved with in these southern provinces.

Where: Chinese Culture Club, Kent Center, No 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: October 17, 10 am - 12 pm

Cost: 50 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341

Talk: CCTV Tower

The Beijing International Society will present a special evening hosted by two people: Ole Scheeren, who runs the Office for Metropolitan Architecture Practice in Beijing and is the partner in charge of the CCTV Tower, and Rory McGowan, one of the Directors of Arup, the internationally renowned engineering and design consultancy, who has led the structural engineering work on the CCTV Building.

Together they will talk about the design philosophy behind the structure, what sort of engineering made it possible, and how the public can interact with the building.

Where: Embassy of the Republic of Iraq 25, Xiushui Beijie, Chaoyang District

When: October 16, 7:30 pm

Mostly Mozart

The Pianists Nova Hwang and Hunter Chen will perform their recital pieces in preparation for international piano competitions in the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, and Arizona, USA.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District

When: October 17, 7:30 pm

Tel: 6586 9507

(By He Jianwei)

Expat online shopping expands quickly

By Annie Wei

More and more people have discovered that Taobao, the Chinese version of eBay, is another Chinese shopping paradise.

Convenient shopping online

Aaron Horrell, 35, from the UK, executive creative director of an advertising company, has become a frequent user of Taobao over the past three months. "Taobao has complete product lines, a bigger variety and cheaper prices," Horrell said. As a Chinese language beginner, Horrell's way of dealing with an overwhelming page of Chinese characters online is to click on individual characters and learn what each means between. "So I know the difference of jackets and motorbikes now," he said.

Service needs to improve

However, many people have complained about the inconvenience of using Taobao, for exam-

ple how the payment system works. According to the website, one has to sign up for a zhifubao, the Chinese version of Paypal, first. A buyer has to fill his or her information out online, including bank details, and then go to his or her bank to open online banking options on his or her account, and finally apply for the online paying function.

Joshua Dominick, 29, from the US, who has remarkable Chinese reading and speaking skills, said the only thing that bothered him about Taobao was the zhifubao requirement. "Maybe I am too lazy to figure it out, but in other countries, online shopping can be easily connected with one's credit card." When Dominick spots something he wants to buy on line, he sends the link to a Chinese colleague or a friend who owns a zhifubao. So does Horrell. Other online Web sites like Joyo

and Dangdang for books, and Piaooutong for tickets, are more convenient for their cash-on-delivery service, Dominick said.

Another drawback to Taobao is the potential communication gap between expat buyers and Taobao sellers. Horrell said that once he ordered a pair of shoes made of fabric, but what arrived was made of leather. He had to re-order, and ask his Chinese friend to confirm with the seller: still leather.

Catering to expat market

Although it's hard to tell how many expats are using online shopping website services in China, the demand is growing stronger with the increasing numbers of foreigners moving to and living in China. Expatmart.com, established in 2005, aims to service the expat community nationwide, and has seen an increasing demand from online shoppers.

The expat community has not just expanded in tier 1 cities such as Beijing and Shanghai, but smaller cities have also quickly grown. Sarah said that Expatmart.com had a strong satisfaction from expat shoppers in 2nd and 3rd tier cities, for example from Tangshan, Suzhou. About 50 percent of their business comes from 2nd or 3rd tier cities, and this percentage is rapidly growing.

The website was founded by a group of expats who have personally experienced the difficulty of shopping in a foreign country. Take China for example, where foreigners are sometimes perceived as rich and gullible since they often do not speak the language. Expatmart.com offers English customer service and a large variety of products through cooperation with major reputable warehouses in China.

"The most important thing is

that we have a risk-free Cash on Delivery service that allows our customers to buy from over 300 cities in China and they do not have to worry about paying online, or the security problems that come with that," Sarah from Expatmart said.

However, running a business successfully is never easy. Sarah said that since expats are more spread out, it is more difficult to sense consumption behavior and aggregate overall demand.

In addition, Expatmart must coordinate carefully with the postal system, an industry where workers do not speak English. Sometimes even the customers do not know English well if they are from a non-English speaking country. Moreover, many things are not yet mature in online shopping systems in China, such as logistics, and return and exchange procedures.

Six Olympic venues open to the public

By Jin Zhu

Six Olympic venues have been opened to the public. They include the Beijing Capital Stadium, the Beijing Shooting Range, Laoshan Velodrome and Mountain Bike Course, the National Sports Training Center, the Beijing Olympics Sports Center and Beijing Sports University.

According to the State General Administration of Sports, opening these venues to the public is aimed at ensuring the practical use of Olympic venues following the Games and to promote sports to the masses. The entry price will be slightly lower than those of privately operated gymnasiums or sports venues.



The mountain bike course is very popular among local cycling fans.

CFP Photo

Free admission to the professional biking course

The Laoshan Mountain Bike Course, located in western Beijing, is currently open free of charge.

US President George W Bush has visited this venue in 2005 and 2008.

The Olympic course has a total length of 4.7 kilometers and is suited to professional training and competition.

Since the course is located in a mountainous area, there are no facilities on the site, so riders have to prepare all their equipment, including a mountain bike, crash helmet and first-aid, in advance.

Where: Laoshan, Shijing Shan
Tel: not currently available

Olympic horses for riding fans

The national equestrian club, located on the campus of Beijing Sports University, has two 500-square-meter outdoor training fields.

The club management says the club imported their 70 horses from countries including Germany, Australia and France. All their horses understand English commands and have received regular and thorough training. Since

some horses participated in the Beijing Olympics, the public also has the opportunity to choose Olympic horses for riding.

Where: Beijing Sports University, Zhongguancun North Street, Haidian

Cost: an 80-minute ride is 200 yuan and the rider only needs to prepare leg guards in advance. Riders can also receive professional guidance from foreign coaches. Prices vary from 300 to 500 yuan per hour.

Tel: 6298 9496

Enjoy physical therapy at the tennis stadium

The National Sports Training Center has three indoor stadiums with a total of 12 tennis courts.

Besides regular services in the tennis stadium, members can also enjoy physical therapy in the sports medicine center after a match.

Where: 2 Tiuguan Lu, Chongwen

Cost: 300 yuan per hour

Open: 9 am - 9 pm

Tel: 8718 3401

Skating with athletes

The skating rink in the Beijing Capital Stadium opens to the public from 6 pm to 8 pm every night. Since the skating rink is

also the training ground for the national team, it is common to have the opportunity to view professionals training.

Where: 5 Baishi Qiao, Haidian

Cost: 50 yuan per hour

Tel: 6832 5603

Shooting at the foot of Xishan

The Beijing Shooting Range Hall, located at the southern foot of Xishan (West Mountain), will be open to the public by the end of this month.

The nine shooting events, which are special training practices for the national teams including clay pigeon and sports rifle will be available. The price for each bullet is about seven yuan.

"The opening up of shooting facilities was not for making a profit," Zhang Liang, director of the Beijing Shooting Range Hall, said "The price for use of the shooting range will be used to offset operating costs. We will provide guidance beside every target to ensuring the safety of visitors."

Where: north of the Xishan forest park, Shijing Shan

Cost: not currently available

Tel: not currently available

Other venues

Basketball at the National Sports Training Center

Where: 2 Tiuguan Lu, Chongwen

Cost: 600 yuan per hour from Monday to Friday

Tel: 8718 3375

Golf in the National Sports Training Center

Where: 2 Tiuguan Lu, Chongwen

Cost: 7000 yuan per year for members

Open: 8:30 am - 10 pm

Tel: 8718 3352

Badminton at the Beijing Olympic Sports Center

Where: 1 Anding Lu, Chaoyang

Open: 9 am - 9 pm

Cost: 50 yuan per hour

Tel: 6491 2143

Outdoor tennis at the Beijing Olympic Sports Center

Where: 1 Anding Lu, Chaoyang

Open: 6 am - 8 pm

Cost: 120 yuan per hour

Tel: 6491 2143

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: weiyang@ynet.com

Could you recommend some good Italian restaurants near the East 3rd ring or Sanlitun area? We prefer the restaurant that use imported Italian ingredients.

If you are looking for a place good for kids you can try Annie's. Most will claim it's not "real" Italian food, but to tell you the truth, the dishes many people typically get there, pizzas, pasta, salads, and chicken ravioli with spinach are good and generally cheaper than most other Italian spots. GISA, which is situated in Chao Yang Park East Gate, is a little bit expensive but the food is top notch.

We are moving to a new apartment. I have a large number of paintings, fine glassware and a lot of camera equipment. What should I be aware of for hiring a moving agency?

You can borrow or rent a car or minivan for moving your valuables. While the movers themselves are usually fairly careful, especially if you tell them which boxes contain fragile goods, but with the trucks they use and the condition of some of the roads here, your belongings may be in for a rough ride.

I want to obtain a driving license here. Is it worth the extra money just getting it under the table? Is it easy to get ripped off doing that? I don't have time to do all the tests and driving lessons.

Getting a license here is pretty cheap and does not take much time. You should get it in a proper legal way. If you get one under the table, it is possible to get ripped off, and you might end up paying 8,000 yuan.

(By Wang Yu)

Pippi Longstocking closes Children's Theater Festival

By Zhang Dongya

Nineteen children's dramas were performed by 13 opera troupes at the 2008 Children Theater Festival held by the China Children Research Association, China Children's Art Theatre and Asia-Pacific Producers Network (APN) this week.

Classic Chinese myths and fairytales such as *Journey to the West* and *The Butterfly Lovers*, and Sweden's Pippi Longstocking were put on for the enjoyment of children attending the festival.

A total of 50 performances took place during the 10-day festival. Besides theatrical troupes from Beijing, shows from other provinces were invited, such as *The Seventh Petal* from Tianjin, *Ice Girl*



Performers from different groups gather together.

Photo provided by China Children's Art Theatre

from Anhui, and *My Shadow* and *I* from Shandong.

Some private theatrical companies such as Beijing Binfen Wuxian Children's Art Theatre

and Beijing Zheteng Culture and Communication Company also put on performances.

Various kinds of children plays, including puppet shows

and shadow plays enriched the festival.

China Puppet Art Theater chose the classic puppet shows *Crane and Tortoise* and *The Butterfly Lovers*. The Beijing Shadow Show Troupe put on *Jinshan Temple* and *Three Neighbors*.

Eight theaters including the Oriental Pioneer Theater and Andersen Theater provided stages for the festival.

Representatives of APN from China, Japan, Korea, and the US were invited to watch the plays and discuss the Chinese children's theatrical shows.

"Compared to plays in Korea, children's plays in China are more standard and organized," said Kim Byung-ho from Korea during the symposium last Sunday.

"They also have varied styles, such as the shadow play, which we don't have. However, the skills of performers are not rich enough, therefore, I think more modern elements can be added."

The festival will end with a performance of *Pippi Longstocking* this weekend.

The play was adapted from the well-known Swedish fairytale by Astrid Lindgren last year to celebrate what would have been the author's 100th birthday.

Where: China Children's Art Theater, 64 Donganmen Street, Dongcheng

When: October 10, 7: 15 pm, October 11, 3 pm, October 12, 7: 15 pm

Admission: 30 - 150 yuan

Tel: 6512 9689, 6521 1425

Art in many places

By He Jianwei

Art is money and power. The reality of the art market seems to prove the statement. But some people are rethinking what art is for artists and audiences.

The 2008 Beijing 798 Art Festival may provide an answer. Two major exhibitions, including a theme exhibition and an outdoor sculpture exhibition, aim at reconsidering art from artists' and audiences' perspectives separately.

Art is not anything

At the entrance to 798 Art Center Hall I, visitors can try painting with oils on canvas. Multiple people share the same canvas and can get a picture of what they contributed. In such a world, art is near everyone.

This year's exhibition focuses on the topic of "art is not anything"; and surveys 45 Chinese artists. The artists have submitted their answers through their latest paintings, videos, sculptures and installations.

"Few people are fake scientists or philosophers, but many pretend to be artists. Art cannot be duplicated, but commercial pieces can," Wang Huaxiang, one of the artists, said.

Wang's answer came in an oil painting in which a huge slave was captured by smaller people. He said "contemporary art" was nothing but a corpse.

Zhuang Hongyi's two needle beds combine traditional shapes and modern materials. "Art is to explore, select and express. Art exists somewhere in the world, and the artist finds it to explain it in human logic and language," Zhuang said.

"New Species" is Dai Yun's work. At first sight, the sculpture

looks like an ancient painted pot from the Banpo Period (4,000 BCE). At another glance, it appears modern because the imaginary dolphin-like species is made of bricks.

"Art is not a paradise for speculators. Art is not to label something. Art is not to follow the fashion," Dai said.

The themed exhibition is more academic because of the curator's focus on the problems in Chinese contemporary art. "In China, art means too much: it means capital, power and benefit," Wang Lin, the curator, said.

Many people have stereotypes about contemporary art. The curator hopes to help people abandon these. "Art is not anything, but it can be something else," he said.

The topic has no boundaries. "We can hardly define art today—we can only define what it is not. For instance, art is not terrorism. Some people say 9/11 was the biggest performance art. I disagree. Art cannot harm humans and life," he said.

He did not write the preface for the themed exhibition. "I asked artists, netizens and viewers to write it. They have their own understanding about what contemporary art is," he said.

Art is everything

As viewers enter the 798 Art District, they will find more sculptures along the streets and in the square. The "LOFT" Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition is one of the highlights of this year's festival.

As many as 50 sculptures are scattered throughout the district. A rabbit with tiger spots stands on the grass. Columns of black water spout from an ink fountain. A giant capsule lies on the square. Many viewers stopped to take pictures with the sculptures.

Compared with the themed exhibition, viewers can easily access the outdoor sculptures. "The artwork is something viewers can take part in to get a reaction," Victoria Lu, one of the curators for the outdoor sculpture exhibition, said.

The outdoor exhibition is an educational service. "To train good artists is important, but more important is to cultivate good audiences. When artwork enters public space, everybody can touch and feel it," she said.

She believes the outdoor sculpture exhibition is complementary to the themed

exhibition. "The theme is 'Art is not Anything,' so maybe we can tell people 'art is everything,'" she said.

She hopes even factory workers in the art district can understand the works and "that artists are not strange," she said.

The curator chose sculpture as the medium of the exhibition because she said the next 20 years will be the art years of sculpture.

"The manufacturing cost for sculpture is much higher than painting. Most artists didn't have enough money to make them before, but they have grown rich the last 20 years. China also has many skillful technicians who can assist artists," she said.

During the exhibition, she and curator Cui Li knocked on galleries' doors one by one to ask whether they would like to participate in the outdoor exhibition.

"We called the exhibition 'We are One Family,' because it is the first time that the government, the galleries and the artists have worked together in the history of the 798 Art Festival," she said.



LOFT Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition makes art enter public space.

CFP Photos

Other exhibitions

Besides the themed exhibition and outdoor sculpture exhibition, there are 50 exhibitions in the galleries. The first two end October 18. The other exhibitions will continue through late October to November.

In the Metal Square, the China Sculpture Institute has invited 20 artists who sculpt with metal. More than 50 galleries from 11 countries and regions attended the Special Exhibition and Union Exhibition.

In the 798 Art Center Press Conference Hall, nine university students showed videos and experimental films.

The Goethe-Institut China has two cooperative exhibitions with the festival in the 798 Art Center Hall III through October 18. One is The Dimension of the Plane – Communication Design in Germany. Some 41 design studios are involved in the exhibition.

Another is Bauhaus Architecture Photography and Concept Hans Engels, which is exhibiting works from 1919, the year of the founding of the school, to 1932, the year of its closure.



UNMASK, UM



Zhan Wang, Deity M

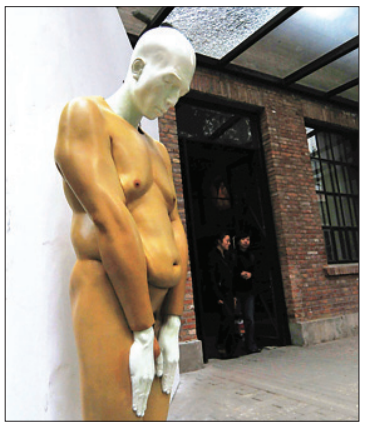
S 2008 Beijing 798 Art Festival



Zhang Nian, *Waiting*, details
Photos provided by 798 Art Festival



Li Xinjian, *Obelisk*



Chen Wenling, *God of Materialism*

List

Korean Artist Mr Kim Sang Gyun's Solo Exhibition

Where: Space I, Gallery Artside
Beijing

When: Until to November 2

The Simulacra: He Wenjue Watch Movie 2008

Where: Beyond Art Space
When: Until to October 30

Library

Where: Beijing Commune
When: Until to November 15

Between Life and Death

Where: Art Seasons Beijing
When: Until to October 19

Shape in the Amorphism

Where: Gallery Space-DA
When: Until to October 19

Inherit, Discover and Create - From Construction to Deconstruction

Where: 798 Art Bridge Gallery
When: Until to October 31

Transparency and Vision

Where: No.1 Building, 706 District, 798 Originality Square
When: Until to October 15

Walter Bergmoser Solo Show

Where: Space Noon
When: Until to October 26

Contemporary Artists from Korea

Where: Show Gallery
When: Until to October 18

Sublime and Majestic Spirit - Ren Zhe Sculpture Exhibition
Fairylund of The Real - Lily & pillow Artworks Exhibition
Where: Ren Zhe Sculpture Studio
When: Until to October 18

Big Explosion
Where: Tianyuan Space Station
When: Until to October 18

Between Two Worlds: Solo Exhibition of Ouka Leele
Where: Iberia Center for Contemporary Art
When: Until to November 16

See and Be Seen
Where: Inter art center/Inter gallery
When: Until to October 26

Same Room Different Dreams - Artists Group Exhibition
Where: TS1 Gallery
When: Until to October 16

Soul Guardian Mirror of Innermost World: Li Chen Solo Show
Where: Asia Art Center
When: Until to November 2

Korean Artist Jung Boc Su's Solo Exhibition
Where: Space II, Gallery Artside
Beijing
When: Until to October 14

The Great Third Front Solo Exhibition - Photography

Where: Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery I

When: Until to October 30

Mumbai: A Laundry Field

Where: Galleriacontinua

Date: Until to November

Chen Laotie Calligraphic Style and Expressionism Oil Painting Exhibition 2008

Where: Orient Art Gallery
When: Until to October 20

NO.5 Xiaowei Hutong - the 3rd Studio of Oil Painting Department of Central Academy of Fine Arts from 1980 to 1984

Where: Loft 3 Art Gallery
When: Until to October 20

Lao Ba Solo Exhibition

Where: Red Star Gallery
When: Until to October 15

Photographic Exhibition

Where: 9 Cube Gallery
When: Until to October 16

Hanging in Sky Drifting on Surface

Where: Linda Gallery
When: Until to October 15

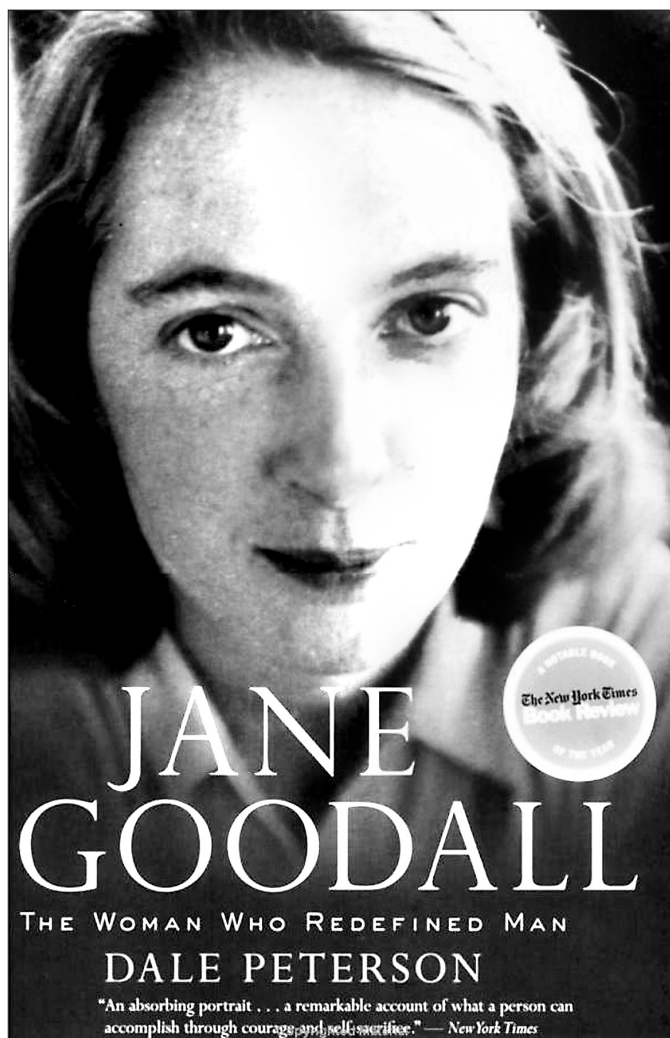
Herstory: Han Yajuan Solo Show

Where: Marella Gallery
When: Until to October 31



Machine

The woman who raises human's cousins



By Charles Zhu

Jane Goodall was born in 1934 in an English seaside town. She made history in 1960 when she discovered tool-making activities by chimpanzees on the Serengeti Plains of northern Tanzania. In response to the discovery, Louis Leakey, a white Kenyan paleo-anthropologist, said, "Now we must redefine 'tool,' redefine man, or accept chimpanzees as human." Dale Peterson gives an immensely detailed account of Goodall's work in his *Jane Goodall: The Woman Who Redefined Man* (740pp, Houghton Mifflin, US \$35).

This early discovery of chimpanzees stripping twigs to make rods for termite-fishing by the young and charming pony-tailed English girl was revolutionary. Though Darwin discovered the evolutionary process and placed human beings firmly in nature as animals, there was no strong proof or well-founded interpretation of the physiological similarities between humans and primates.

What surprised the world was that she made this revolutionary discovery without any formal training. The established ethno-

logical community considered her presumptions unscientific. However, it might have been because of this that she was able to observe chimpanzees with an untainted child's sensitivity to the personality and individuality of animals without the interference of established methodologies and theories. She looked at animal behaviors from an intuitive perspective and, free from orthodoxy, was able to think about how chimpanzees share 98.4 percent of their genes with humans.

Her long stay in the harsh, tropical jungles and complex forested terrain of the Gombe Stream nature reserve in Tanganyika helped Goodall become the first scientist to observe that chimps were cooperating with each other in hunts, eating meat, and that they were well organized in tribal warfare. She accurately identified each chimpanzee and observed over a long period of time its personality and relation to other chimpanzees. She learned of the lifelong bond between a chimpanzee mother and her offspring and the deep grief when their mother died. This sim-

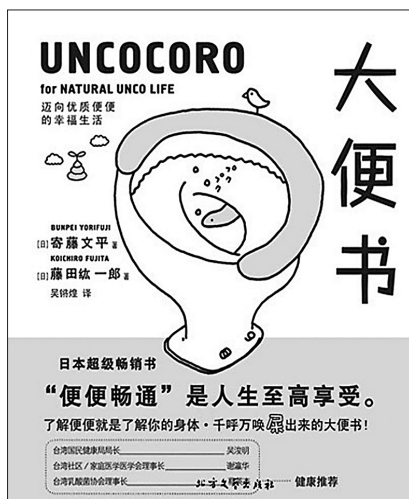
ilarity with human behavior offers support for a sociological interpretation of genetics.

In the mid-1980s, Goodall pioneered a program to help endangered primate populations survive. She successfully lobbied the US Congress to restrict laboratory use of primates and helped establish a number of nature refuges for chimpanzees in Africa.

She has criticized humans for dependence on environmentally-damaging agribusiness and factory farming. She proposed vegetarianism as a remedy and urges humans to return to consume only organically grown local produce in season in *Harvest of Hope, A Guide to Mindful Eating* (296pp, Warner, US \$14.99). She said this would help soil, water tables, rivers and seas to recover from the chemical run-off of fertilized crops, and will help reduce greenhouse gases.

Though these are not new ideas, they are worth serious attention when espoused by a scientist who made a revolutionary discovery in ethnological studies. Generations later, humans may realize just how wise and how revolutionary her suggestions are.

New goal in life: the perfect poo every day



By Annie Wei

Uncocoro: for Natural Unco Life, also known as "the book of poos" (192pp, Beifang Wenyi Press House, 29 yuan) is a new book about intestinal health with simple texts and cute illustrations.

Written by Fujita Koichiro, a doctor who specializes in parasites, and illustrated by Yorifuji Bunpei, the book describes the human body as a factory and how it produces different things. According to the book, certain diet habits may put an unfair strain on production.

It details different kinds of "end-products" and gives suggestions on how to improve one's health.

"For a long time, what comes out of people's bodies has been considered filthy, but unavoidable ... *Uncocoro: for Natural Unco Life* will make you pause from your mad rush to exterminate waste and carefully consider some questions," Wu Junming, head of Taiwan's Bureau of Health Promotion, said.

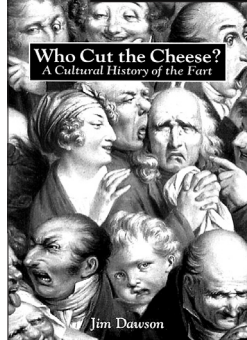
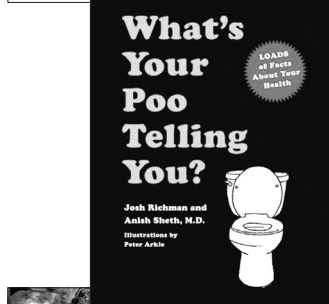
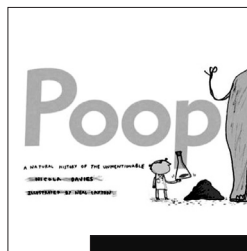
Instead of talking about how intestinal health is related to digestive or beauty concerns, the author boldly announces how much he likes what he studies. The book contains health information, especially signs our bodies give, but which we frequently ignore.

Reading the book is like reading a Japanese comic: any reader can discover his or her body from a totally new angle. There is no need to be fluent in Chinese to understand what each page means.

On Joyo, an online book store, some readers were critical about how the book was overly simplified, but most loved its illustrations and agreed it deserved a place in any bathroom.

Some said that they were impressed by the author's precision - even when digesting this topic.

One mother reviewer said it encouraged her eight-year-old daughter to kick junk food. "She read the book carefully. The next day when we went to a park, she was tired and thirsty and said she wanted to eat at KFC. The next morning, after using the bathroom, her poo was not what the book said was healthy. Since then she has refused to eat at KFC."



Other intestinal health books

Poop: a Natural History of the Unmentionable

Candlewick, 64pps, US\$ 12.99

Children who have been introduced to the concept that everybody poops by the book of the same name can now do a text analysis of the topic in a volume that explores the stuff by color, usefulness, and size. Thankfully sticking mostly to animals, the author begins with "a tour of poop" that illustrates a wide variety of feces. She then goes on to discuss how it is produced, what animals do with it, and what humans occasionally do with animal feces. The very informative text uses humor, but mostly plays it straight.

What's Your Poo Telling You?

Chronicle Books, 96pp, US \$9.95

With universal appeal, this witty, illustrated description of over two dozen dookies details what one can learn about health and well-being by studying what's in the bowl.

Who Cut the Cheese: a Cultural History of the Fart

Ten Speed Press, 120pp, US \$9.95

If this book was a reference book, it would be the encyclopedia fartanica. It is full of literary references, Shakespearean sonnets, historical data, scientific facts, myths and legends: all you ever wanted to know that they never taught you in 5th grade biology.

Band with a Chinese twist

By He Jianwei

Wearing old-fashioned gray gowns, the band members played guitar, bass and Chinese drum. Nancheng Erge, the eight-member band, took the crowd at the Modern Sky Festival by storm on October 1 with its combined rock and Chinese folk sound. More and more local bands are bringing Chinese elements into their stage performance, but Nancheng Erge is one of the most successful.



Nancheng Erge combines northern folk art with Western music.

Photos provided by Nancheng Erge

In Fengtai District, southwest of the downtown area, Nancheng Erge trains in their studio. Its members dress in traditional Chinese gowns and cloth shoes both on and off the stage. "The clothing makes us feel comfortable and we don't have to worry about it getting roughed up," Erge, the vocalist says, wearing his black gown and matching shoes.

Erge and the others founded the band last October. Their folk-style performance has helped them grow a following since they first took to the stage this March.

Erge once worked as a recording director and planned to form a band in 2005. Nancheng is "south town" in English, and South Town was where Tianqiao folk art, a form most associated with old Beijing, began.

Between the end of the Qing Dynasty and the early Republic, Tianqiao was a bustling area that drew folk artists, acrobats, wrestlers and cross-talkers. It also gave rise to theaters, teahouses and antique shops.

"Nancheng represents grassroots art and Erge is like 'pip-squeak' in Chinese. For us, the name is a way to convey our easygoing attitude to listeners," he says.

Erge was born in Tianjin, the hometown of many folk performances such as crosstalk. In his childhood, he listened to the old artists

performing on the street. "There is no distance between the artists and audience. It is what I would want if I were an artist," he says.

He listens to many kinds of music, from classical to rock and from jazz to blues. "I used to wear tight jeans and boots, like the rock star uniform. But I never found inspiration for my music as a recording director. Inspiration only came after I dipped into folk arts," he says.

In their music, he combines northern folk art, like Beijing drum signals, with Western punk and blues. "Our band is like a plant growing in a Chinese pot with Western fertilizer," he says.

But he denies that causes any clash in form.

"Western musicians pay more attention to harmony, tempo and bass. In folk art, the music cannot be louder than the vocal. We pull together bits of advantage from each," he says.

The band shuns electronic music as "too industrial." "Each sound should have roots, like blues music from the US," he says.

Many Chinese folk performances are involved in Erge's music, so each member trains two days a week. "After training, I assign homework so each member can continue to train at home. Tongue twisters are the basics," he says.

Other bands

Five other "traditional" bands, including Buyi, Chiren, Erguang, Youzhidadou and Fatiaokamusuo, performed at Yugongyishan in July.

Buyi is a band rooted in the northwest. Its name is taken for what a commoner in cotton clothes is called. The ethnic rock band formed in 1995 and began its career in the Ningxia Autonomous Region. After five years as a local band, Buyi moved to Beijing.

Buyi Band is hailed as pure and emotional, combining traditional music with northwestern fold. In 2000, it released several singles from its self-titled debut album including "Fall," "The Free Bird" and "A Place Called Sanshi Li Pu," many of which feature instruments like the guzheng.

Chiren's members grew up in a hutong, so its music has a typical Beijing flavor. Vocalist Wu Zeyi was born into a family steeped in Chinese folk song. Wu studied Chinese instruments as a child, including suona, flute, guqin and sheng. His family used Beijing drums to "sing" its pieces.

Founded in 1998, the "New Folk" style Erguang is a popular part of China's rock scene. Erguang has experienced many twists and turns over the last nine years since its establishment. They record their lives and loves, singing about idealism and condemning false morals.

Erguang's music is different from rock: its low-pitch poetic tone is difficult to understand. This endows the songs with a folk custom. With a strong funk rhythm, the band always has realistic sounds with its unique music, and pours out 5,000 years of national emotions for all to experience.

How to build a rock band at Gulou Dong Dajie

By Wang Yu

As the cultural center of the country, it's no surprise that Beijing is also the city where Chinese rock and roll experienced its rise and fall over the last 20 years. Although this kind of music is still considered a sub-culture, nowadays it is easier for young people to get involved than before, as more professional musical instrument shops can be found in the center of the city. This time, Beijing Today takes you to Gulou Dong Dajie, a new hot spot following on the heels of Liuli Chang and Xin Jiekou's popularity.



What do they say?



Name: Sun Lingsheng

Who: Lead vocalist of Super VC

Gear: Rickenbacker 330

"Among the seven guitars I have, the two Rickenbacker 330s of different colors are my favorite because I'm a huge John Lennon fan and these guitars can give you a Beatles sound exactly right. Rickenbacker guitars are rare in China so I bought mine from Europe. Usually, I go to Music 7 to buy accessories. My suggestion is focus on one store and, once you become familiar with it, the owner may offer you a discount."

Classic guitar brands in Haoyun Lingyin

Located at the east end of Gulou Dong Dajie, Haoyun Lingyin is famous for its variety. You can find almost every mainstream type of guitar, such as Stratocaster, Telecaster of Fender and Les Paul, ES-335 of Gibson here. The high price of these classic names may be out of reach for many beginners, but substitutes like Epiphone and Squier are also available here, and offer a similar sound for a more affordable price.

Besides guitars, on the other side of the shop there are show cases displaying Boss and Electro-Harmonix guitar effects, and accessories such as machine heads, bridges, and strings. You can also find pickups such as Seymour Duncan here.

Besides Fender, Marshall, and Line6 amps, the shop also carries other brands, such as Laney and Vox, which may not be on display, so be sure to ask. Haoyun Lingyin also opened its bass and drum department last year just next to the main store.

You can also ask the shop to order a rare instrument from abroad. Some expensive items in Haoyun Lingyin, like the Gibson ES-335, are packed in plastic for protection, so just ask the shop owner if you want to have a try.

Haoyun Lingyin

Where: 27 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

Open: 10 am - 6 pm

Tel: 8403 3067, 6406 6269

Web site: rockmeimei.com

Music 7 has treasures

Music 7 does not sell ordinary things that can be found anywhere else in the city.

The shop has built a reputation as the most attractive warehouse for guitar effects lovers. Fulltone, Roger Mayer, Carl Martin, and other brands can easily be found here. The shop has also developed its own kind of pedal board, which allows the user to switch between sounds easily. Guitars of Carvin and Schecter are Music 7's best sellers, while you can also sometimes find Suhr here. The shop even has amplifiers from Orange and Bogner,

dream equipment that most guitar players have never seen inside China before.

Of course these rare things are not for beginners, and cost a bit more, but you will get what you pay for. If there are problems with your purchase, bring it back and they will fix it as soon as possible.

The shop also has a small rehearsal room that doubles as a studio.

Music 7

Where: 28 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

Open: 10 am - 6 pm

Tel: 8404 3614



What do they say?



Name: Zhang Shouwang

Who: Lead guitarist of Car-sick Cars

Gear: 1969 Gibson SG

"My Gibson SG was bought from America. It was manufactured in 1969, the pickups are old but they sound unique, just what I want. I also have a Fender and I concentrate more on effects to create my own guitar sound. The key point of looking for a good guitar is you must know what kind of sound you want and try in the shop to feel the guitars yourself."

Photos by Wang Yu

Looking for new equipment for your studio



What do they say?

Name: Paul Chu

Who: Bassist of the Life Journey and Halei

Gear: Epiphone Flying V Bass

"I have a collection of more than 30 guitars and basses. My collection began in 2003, and most of them were bought from abroad with the help of some overseas friends, and some were bought from instrument dealers who sometimes have rare things. The Epiphone Flying V is my favorite for its great middle sound and was made in Korea in 2002. I often play it at our shows."



Playing onstage is not the only way an independent band can broadcast its music. With the advent of such music-sharing web sites as Youtube, Myspace, and Last.fm, a new single recorded at home can be instantly available around the world with the right equipment. That is where Fuda comes in.

At first glance, the shop seems typical. Keyboard players can find digital pianos and synthesizers from Yamaha, Roland and other mainstream brands, and rookies will be able to buy affordable

Behringer accessories, but once you step inside you will realize that professional audio equipment is what makes Fuda special among the dealers on Gulou Dajie. M-Audio, Focurite, ESI, t.c.Electronic, and PreSonus

hardware, from pro sound cards to DJ gears, are all available.

Although Fuda has a second floor, some equipment is not displayed due to the limited space, so make sure to ask if you are looking for something that is not shown. A word of advice: do not trust the price on the tag, and prove to the salespeople you are not a novice, or bring someone who is familiar with the market, to save some money.

The shop also does business online. You can visit their website to find information about Fuda's new arrivals and place orders.

Fuda

Where: 24-1 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

Open: 10 am - 7 pm

Tel: 6402 9720

Web site: fuda123.com

The only place with homemade bitters

How to use bitters



Put a few drops of bitters on ice.



Add the other alcohol.



Add some lemon slices.



Add ginger ale, which Lee plans to make by hand at OT Lounge in the future.



Put in a straw.



Ready to serve!



By Annie Wei

OT Lounge, a music and cocktail bar with a cozy wooden balcony, a great view, and excellent Jazz at night, is the only place in town that has bitters. Bitters, a type of alcoholic beverage prepared with herbs and citrus and dissolved in alcohol or glycerine, is known for its bitter or bittersweet flavor.

OT Lounge's manager, Leon Lee, explained to Beijing Today that bitters was originally used as medicine before modern western medicine was invented. Later, bitters were mixed with spirits and drunk as an early form of cocktail. Today, there are many brands of bitters sold in European and American countries, and are drunk as digestifs. "The western bitters is like Chinese *paojiu*," Lee said. *Paojiu* is a traditional Chinese medicine created from steeping herbs or animals, such as snake, into alcohol, which is believed to release the medical ingredients into the alcohol.

In the US, Lee said people often use Everclear 151, an alcohol with 75.5 percent alcohol, to make homemade bitters. Here in China, the only inexpensive grain alcohol with a high enough proof is *Erguotou*, a local favorite strong and clear distilled liquor. By putting in different ingredients according to old recipe books about bitters Lee found back in the US,

he is able to create OT Lounge's bitters. Common ingredients in his bitters include angostura bark, cascarilla, cassia, gentian, orange peel, and guinine. A lot of ingredients that Lee uses can be bought locally and easily, except for some special and important ones. Gentian, for example, is an important ingredient in bitters which is extracted from a bitter herb to increase the strong taste of the liquor. Lee's recipe then calls for the mixtures to be shaken twice a day, and placed on a shelf of the bar for several weeks. Just before the bitters is ready, caramel is added to increase the viscosity and darken the color.

Asked what customers think of the bitters that OT Lounge offers now, Lee said they approve. The bitters drinks he creates are based on the recipes of many famous mixologists. While there are many successful drinks already in the menu, Lee is always experimenting with new ideas.

OT Lounge

Where: First floor of Sunjoy Mansion, 6 Ritan Lu, Jianguomen Wai Dajie. Near the St Regis Hotel, across from Haagen Daz

When: 4 pm to late

Tel: 6585 3406

Recommendations: A bitters is 35 yuan per glass. Happy Hour is daily from 5-8 pm with 25 yuan cocktails.

Photos by Neil Darby

How to make bitters



Put a bottle of Erguotou in the jar.



Add herbs like dry oranges.



Add extra flavors like cinnamon.



All of the ingredients are in the bottle.



Shake! Shake! Shake!



The orange bitters is done after a few weeks.

5 Friday, October 10

Exhibition

Cosmos, Earth and Men – Q. Harada Suzuki Solo Exhibition



Professor Harada of the Nagoya University of Arts is a devout artist who works to express the Eastern mind-set and its search for harmony between heaven, Earth and man. Viewers can experience an insight into this intellectual challenge through his exhibition.

Where: 9 CUBE ART MUSEUM, Brewery International Art Garden, Beihuqu Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 12, daily except Monday 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9210

The Essence of Ego

Where: The First Sound Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 24, daily except Monday 9 am – 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 5978 9888

Nightlife

Musicology 0.3



Where: Tango, 79 Hepin Xi Lu, Dongcheng

When: October 10, 10:30 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6428 2288

Movie

Where: Beijing Institute Cervantes, A1 Gongti Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 5879 9666



Now • Free Contemporary Art Exhibition

Where: New Millennium Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 28, daily 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 4122, 139 1116 6261

Upcoming

Dance

Tribble Bill

Who: Nederlands Dans Theater I
Where: National Grand Theater Opera Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People

When: 7:30 pm, October 14-15

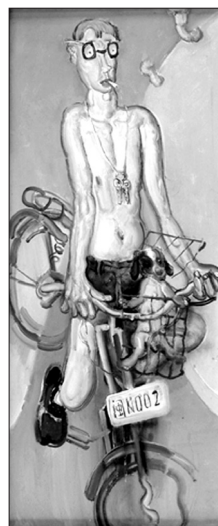
Admission: 180-880 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

6 Saturday, October 11

Exhibition

What Else Do You Have Now?



Where: 94 Space, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until November 19, Tue-Fri noon – 6 pm, Sat-Sun 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8456 0467

Inside Views – Floriane de Lassee

Where: Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao, Chaoyang

When: Until November 13, daily 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9263

Movie

La Reine Soleil (Princess of the Sun)

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 3 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

Stage in November

Concert

Giovanni Vitateletti Piano Recital

Who: Giovanni Vitateletti

Where: PKU Centennial Memorial Hall, 116 Zhongguancun Bei Dajie, Haidian

When: November 2, 7:30 pm

Admission: 20-150 yuan

Tel: 6275 8452

French Pianist Dana Ciocarlie

Solo Concert

Who: Dana Ciocarlie

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: November 23, 7:30 pm

Admission: 30-380 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

China Philharmonic Orchestra

2008-2009 Music Festival

Who: Conducted by Xia Xiaotang

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: November 1, 7:30 pm

Admission: 30-480 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

China Philharmonic Orchestra

2008-2009 Music Festival:

Requiem

Who: Conducted by Long Yu

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: November 21, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-880 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

Concert by the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Who: The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Where: National Grand Theater Concert Hall, west side of The Great Hall of the People

When: November 4-5, 7:30 pm

Admission: 280-1,680 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

Drama

Aiba

Who: Directed by Daniel Stewart

Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng

When: November 19-23, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6835 4455

Dance

Myth and Fable

Who: Martha Graham Dance Company

Where: National Grand Theater Opera Hall, west side of The Great Hall of the People

When: November 27, 7:30 pm

Admission: 100-800 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

A Dream of the Red Mansions

Who: Guangzhou Ballet

Where: National Grand Theater Opera Hall, west side of The Great Hall of the People

When: November 20-21, 7:30 pm

Admission: 60-480 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

Tibetan Riddle

Who: Yang Liping

Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang

When: November 26-30, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-1,280 yuan

Tel: 6501 1854

(By Li Jing)

7 Sunday, October 12

Exhibition

Wang Zi Solo Photography Exhibition

Wang Zi creates a new narrative space and visual excitement through this new series of works. By putting classical Chinese and foreign art pieces together in a real and imaginative way, he makes viewers appreciate they are not reading a traditional history of art, but rather a deliberately absurd and manipulated chronicle.

Where: 798 Photo Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until October 24, daily 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6438 1784, 6437 5284

Para-Production – Ni Haifeng Solo Exhibition

Where: Joy Art, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Until November 30, daily except Mondays 10 am – 6 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9788

Nightlife

Rooftop Reggae Sunday

Free entry, barbeque, reggae tunes and chilling with a view of Xihai. Be sure to come early.

Where: Club Obiwan, 4 Xihai Xiyan, Xicheng

When: October 12, 5 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6617 3231



Get out from under the post-Olympic holiday blues

Hard to feel excited

Xue Ruixue, a journalist at a fashion magazine, finished her last shooting project before the October vacation. She was supposed to arrange another shoot for November as soon as she got back to work.

She woke up early Monday morning. Instead of feeling excited, she did not want to look at any Web sites for fashion information. Three days later she still would not pay any attention to the trends. "It is strange for me to feel that way. Usually, I click on fashion Web sites three times a day, but now, it seems like I have lost interest," Xue said.

"I felt like I have lost all the excitement in my life," she said. Xue believes it was a side effect of her exciting holiday.

Lou's suggestion: leave something up.

It's not a sin to leave some decorations up after a party in your apartment. Leaving a wreath on your door, garland on your banister or some lights will give warmth inside – even after holidays. Take your decorations down slowly instead of all at once. This will make the task easier, and make you less prone to depression. Stripping your house on New Year's is the worst mistake you can make when trying to beat post-holiday depression; it makes you very aware of the "end" and tires you out.

By Gan Tian

It has been a month since the Olympics ended, and a week since the golden week holiday ended. Feeling empty? Lonely? Want to escape work and enjoy another holiday?

Beijing Today suggests for you four helpful tips. If you find yourself a little too close to the people below, it may be time to listen to answers from Luo Xueren, a psychologist.

Lonely

Zhong Lina is a freelancer. She had a hard time returning to work this week after finding her friends were "all gone."

She usually wrote articles in the morning, and went to bookstores for reading in the afternoon while everybody worked in the office. Only her weekends were spent with her friends in clubs and bars, but the seven-day break gave her a lot of time to spend with friends.

"We went out every night those seven days. I could not remember the date today. After I asked out one of my friends tonight, I realized the holiday was over," Zhong said. She said she feels lonely now.

Luo's suggestion: compile memories.

Don't wait to get your photos off the camera and onto the computer or into a scrapbook. Looking at "memories" of the fun you had over the holidays will give you a spark of cheer in January. Purchase some scrapbooks and set to work. Date and caption the pictures, add little holiday foam shapes and cut out crazy borders. You will be amazed at your sense of accomplishment, and your family will enjoy looking at it when it is all done.

Reluctant to work

Ruan Weijing, a programmer, heads to work every Monday morning. However, this Monday morning was the worst: he did not want to face his boss.

"When I got back from work after the holiday, I found my colleagues had become my enemies.

I did not want to see my cubicle," Ruan said. Ruan felt this way for at least three days. Every morning he went to the office, thinking he could put off work until later. However, when night fell, he did not even want to turn on the computer.

"Dealing with computers is boring. You need to be interested in it. Now, I feel so reluctant to work," Ruan said.

Luo's suggestion: keep busy and take time out.

The best thing you can do for yourself is to do something for others. Don't dwell on disappointments that may have occurred. Just start anew. Look around yourself and see how those around you are. If you see that your 65-year-old neighbor is having trouble removing snow, go out and help. Invite your friends over for hot chocolate and conversation. Don't keep to yourself or you'll find the dark shadows of depression creeping up.

Beat the post-holiday depression by taking the time to do something for yourself. Go shopping for new clothes with your gift money, or use those holiday gift cards that you've stacked up. But if you don't want to face the mall, then just draw a hot bath and relax with a good book. If you are feeling burnt out, then take some time out and kiss those post-holiday blues goodbye!

Unable to focus

Dong Ruanli, a new employee at an accounting company, could not concentrate on his job after he went back after the holiday.

"Usually I am a little bit sleepy every morning, but I will always wake up by 10 am – when

I start work," Dong said. However, Dong could not focus on data and diagrams at all on Monday. Sometimes even if he could finish the diagram, he would misspell words and made mistakes. The situation lasted for at least two days.

Luo's suggestion: exercise.

If you cannot focus mentally, there might be something wrong with your body. If you've gained weight over the holidays, then there is no time like the present to get it off. It's easy to get depressed thinking about how much food you stuffed yourself with, but don't let

it get to you. Start an exercise routine and follow it. Even if you haven't gained weight, you will feel energized and better able to face new challenges. Exercise lightens the load in more ways than one. So don't excuse yourself, just get exercising.



Where industry meets tourism

When tourism meets industry in the field of industrial tourism, people are given a chance to learn about how factories work and how cars, food, or wine are made.

In China, companies and factories that have begun offering industrial tours include Shougang Group, Baosteel, Haier, and Changhong Group. The first industrial tour destinations, 103 in total, were listed four years ago by the National Tourism Administration and by the end of last year the number

of industrial tour companies and factories in the country reached 345.

Industrial tourism is an important promotional strategy of companies and factories who allow people to visit their sites and product lines. In Beijing, there are over 50 industrial tour factories and companies. Often the tours at these factories are given as various themes; green farms, manufacturing, creative industry bases, and traditional Chinese crafts workshops.

Industry for city life

In Shunyi District, farms, agricultural companies, and beer and wine factories are windows for people to learn more about civil industries, or those industries that have a close relationship with people's daily life.

Yanjing Beer

Yanjing Beer Group is a national industrial tourism point. In its factory in Shunyi, people can see beer production, and taste fresh beer. Yanjing Beer was established in 1980, and now is one of the biggest beer groups in China. Yanjing Group has invested 5 million yuan in its budding industrial tourism section to build corridors for visitors. Signs and tour explanations are in both Chinese and English. Seven points are connected in the tour route in the factory, including the screening hall, exhibition hall, managing center, three production workshops, and a beer bar. The whole journey takes about 90 minutes. In the beer bar, visitors can taste fresh beer, and buy some specially designed beer products.

Where: 9 Shuanghe Lu, Shunyi District
Tel: 8949 5588, 8949 5511, 8949 5577

Shunxin fruit and vegetable juice factory

Shunxin fruit and vegetable juice factory is in the Niulanshan Industry Zone, making it convenient to reach by public transporta-

tion. It is the first factory in China that produces mixed fruit and vegetable juice.

The company was established in 2000 and is the largest fruit and vegetable juice processing enterprise in China. The number of Shunxin's drink processing lines and thousands of farms enable the company to produce 100 million kilograms of fruit and vegetable juice per year. Visiting corridors have been constructed for people to visit the workshops to see how carrot and pumpkin juices are distilled, and how the final product is examined and packaged.

Where: north of Niushan Huandao, Shunyi District
Tel: 6941 0085

Niulanshan Wine Factory

Niulanshan Erguotou (a type of Chinese white wine) has been popular in Beijing for many years. Niulanshan Wine Factory, the producer, now is open to the public for visits. Niulanshan has over 200 different wine products, and the area's history dates back over 3,000 years. Most of the bronze wares discovered in the area in 1982 are related to drinking wine. The original Niulanshan Erguotou was born in the Qing Dynasty (1636-1912), according to the historical records of Shunyi District.

Where: Niulanshan Town, Shunyi District
Tel: 6941 2531



Niulanshan Wine Factory



Tongrentang



Baigongfang

CFP Photos

Traditional Chinese crafts

For people who are interested in traditional Chinese crafts and manufacturing, there is no shortage of places to go to.

Falangchang

Falangchang Company is the biggest enterprise in China for jingtai (cloisonné) design, production, and trade. Its former name was the Beijing Falangchang Factory, established in 1956. It is the only "laozihao" (old brand) jingtai factory in China.

Jingtai is a famous Chinese craft technique which began in the 13th century near the end of the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). Jingtai techniques have combined traditional Chinese painting, carving, enching, metallurgy and glass melting. In the eyes of Chinese people, jingtai is the symbol of traditional Chinese crafts, and the technique has been listed in the National Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

Jingtai techniques are complicated and require long periods of time for finishing. In ancient times, jingtai wares were only produced in the emperor's palace, but now, visitors can visit the jingtai workshops to see how workers complete each stage of manufacturing. Masters' workshops and excellent jingtai exhibition rooms are also open to tourists.

Where: 10 Anlelin Lu, Yongdingmen Wai, Chongwen District
Tel: 6721 1675

Baigongfang

Baigongfang belongs to the Beijing Gongmei Fenghuang Tourism Group. It is another company that focuses on craft production and sales. In the company, there are a number of different workshops, such as the pearl workshop, jade carving workshop, bronze ware workshop, and hand-made carpets workshop.

Where: crossing of Guangminglu and Xizhaosi Jie, Chongwen District
Tel: 6718 2822

Tongrentang

Tongrentang is a very familiar brand for Chinese people and many foreigners. It is an old traditional Chinese medicine company with a history of over 300 years. Tongrentang has five manufacturing bases in Beijing, with 41 product lines that produce over 1,000 kinds of traditional Chinese medicine products. In the factories, visitors have the chance to see the production process of many types of medicine. For over 300 years, medicine producing techniques have been developed and refined, but the ingredients themselves still reflect the original soul of traditional Chinese medicine.

Where: 42 Chongwai Dajie, Chongwen District
Tel: 6701 5895 (By Jackie Zhang)

Continued on page 21 ...



... continued from page 20

High technology tour

Haidian District has become the converging point for high-tech companies. Fans of electronic products can get plenty of excitement by visiting the high-tech companies in this district. Countless state-of-the-art electronic products and their exquisite production procedures are a feast for any techie's eyes.

Lenovo

Lenovo, the largest PC producer in China, was founded in 1984. After purchasing IBM's PC business in 2005, Lenovo became the world's third largest PC producer. In 2004, Lenovo became the first Chinese enterprise to join The Olympic Partner Program of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and became its worldwide computer equipment partner from 2005 to 2008.

In the Lenovo factory, visitors can tour several interesting sites, including the Lenovo Olympic Museum, where they can learn the history of the Olympics and how Lenovo came to participate in it, and information about its high quality products, systems, services, and brand strategies. In the Product Display Hall, visitors can have a closer look at many products from Lenovo. In the Lenovo Beijing Plant, the laboratory, tiered warehouse facility, and product line can be viewed in action by guests.

Where: 6, Chuangyelu, Shangdi, Haidian District

Tel: 5886 8888

Tsinghua Tongfang

Tsinghua Tongfang is a local science and technology company that was established in 1997. It covers the IT, multi-media, illumination, waste processing, air pollution

control, new energy, and intelligent traffic industries. In Tongfang, visitors can experience advanced digital TV systems, Computer and internet systems, application information systems, environment protection systems, architecture and energy-saving systems, and electro-optical systems.

Where: Tower A, Tsinghua Tongfang High-tech Plaza, Haidian District
Tel: 8239 9988

Vimicro

Vimicro is an outstanding domestic microchip company that provides microchips for computer, mobile communication, and multimedia industries. In Vimicro's plant, you can see many PC multimedia processors, mobile multimedia processors, and consumer electronic multimedia processors all at work.

Where: 15 Shining Mansion, 35 Xueyuanlu, Haidian District
Tel: 6894 8888

IC Design Park

IC Design Park was founded in 2002 by the municipal government, and today is the largest and most diversified industrial base for IC design in the country. IC Design Park established a Public Enterprise Digital Assistant technological platform that can complete various integrated circuit designs, and provide digital assistance, assessments, testing, and other services for IC companies. In the park, visitors can experience advanced software and hardware designs, and tour several designing rooms.

Where: Quantum Plaza, 27 Zhi Chun Road, Haidian District
Tel: 8235 7175

Modern manufacturing engineering tour



Mercedes-Benz's factory

Are you interested in the history of Beijing's industrialization? Do you want to be on the cutting edge of it? By visiting some of the city's famous factories in person, you can learn about modern techniques of industrial production, and experience the skill of Beijing's commercial manufacturing and engineering.

Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC)

These three factories are all located in Yizhuang, Beijing's Economic-Technological Development Area, which is the heart of the city's modern manufacturing and engineering industry.

The Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC) is one of the leading semiconductor foundries in the world, and is also the largest and most advanced foundry in China, providing integrated circuit (IC) manufacturing services at 0.35 microns to 65 nanometers and finer line technologies. Besides offering wafer fabrication technologies, SMIC also provides logic, mixed signal/RF CMOS, high voltage, SoC, DRAM, flash, EEPROM, CIS, and LCoS micro-display technology to its global customers. In the SMIC Beijing factory, visitors can view the production line for wafer fabrication.

Where: 18 Wenchang Dadao, Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area
Tel: 6787 8173

BOE Technology Group Co (BOE)

The BOE Technology Group Co. was founded in April 1993, and is a supplier of display devices and solutions. It is the largest TFT-LCD producer in China, and the ninth largest in

the world. BOE Technology Group has invested 1.25 billion dollars to establish the fifth TFT-LCD generation production line in the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area.

In the factory, visitors can view BOE Technology's TFT-LCD products for IT, TV, and mobiles, and learn the techniques of TFT-LCD, and the operation principles of liquid crystal devices. Moreover, visitors can also get information about the history, development trends, and applications of LCDs and other advanced displaying technologies.

Where: 8 Xihuan Zhonglu, Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area
Tel: 6785 5688

Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz is a well-known motor company which established its first factory in Yizhuang in 2006. The factory covers 20,000 square meters, and is responsible for four processes: stamping, welding, painting, and final assembly of the automobile. Environmental awareness in the German automobile industry is very strong, and because of this, the paint in the painting workshop is composed of a water-based material that has been recognized as first class in the environmental protection arena.

In the Mercedes factory, visitors can not only see various cars in the display hall, but are able to learn about the history of the company and study some advanced information about the safety and amenities of Mercedes automobiles, and the company's environmental protection techniques.

Where: the west side of Majuqiao, Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area
Tel: 6782 2623/6782 3224

(By Venus Lee)

Tsinghua Tongfang

CFP Photos

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Travel Beijing

BEIJING TODAY Editor: He Jianwei Designer: Yang Gen

Management Techniques Part 2: Be an Inspiration


ClarkMorgan Corporate Training

 www.clarkmorgan.com admin@clarkmorgan.com 800 820 5501
 Beijing Chengdu Dalian Guangzhou Hefei Nanjing Qingdao Shanghai Shenzhen Suzhou Wuhan

By Mike Grigg

In last week's article I discussed the "peacemaker" management technique and the benefits it can bring to your organization by saving time and energy spent on conflict. This week we are going to build on this technique and look at effective management by becoming an inspiration to your team and to those around you. An inspiring manager, and leader, does not always win every challenge but always tries to find the correct and long-term resolution. By trying to inspire others, we support and encourage people - even those perceived as "enemies" - during times of conflict.

Traditionally, when we face conflict we feel the need to protect ourselves, to guard the image of our organization and its services, to express our opinions, to support people who we believe to be on "our side", and to achieve our objectives. This is a lot to protect and a lot to handle for young managers and it is not surprising that a number of young managers succumb to stress related illness and our organizations lose great talent.

By acting as an inspiration to others, both our team and other managers, we realize we do not

need to limit ourselves to this closed mind-set. Instead, we can investigate a much wider set of opportunities to help expand our point of view. If we enlarge our point of view by seeking options, promoting win/win solutions, offering assistance and building alliances, we put ourselves in a position in which we not only protect ourselves, but in which we can also guide our "enemies" by showing them how they can protect themselves too. We can promote resolution by inspiring others to feel empowered and supported.

Inspiring others is no easy task, but let me share an example that might just point you in the right direction. A friend of mine works as an engineer for a manufacturing company in the United States. Just over a year ago, the company announced that it would be moving all of its product lines to China and India, and closing down their local plant. My friend was shocked by this news and feared the worst for his family. He began to ask himself some very tricky questions: What would he do about his house payments and savings accounts? How could he support his wife, two sons, and daughter for the rest of their

lives? Did he have the education to transfer or find a new job with another company?

He and all the other employees felt they must stand up and defend their jobs, even though they knew from past precedents at other companies around the country that they may well be fighting a losing battle. However, instead of dressing up like a soldier and heading into battle, my friend decided to ask about opportunities to share his experience with engineers in China and India. It is safe to say the company was shocked by his approach. This inspirational attitude persuaded them to offer him an attractive deal. Because of my friend's peace-making example, the company's management then decided to offer him and several other American engineers the opportunity to travel overseas to share their knowledge and experience with their new overseas colleagues.

The ability to cast off the weapons of conflict in favour of the inspirational attitudes of alliance building takes maturity, thoughtfulness, and self-discipline. However, you and your organization will be well-served by its practice and application.



Mike Grigg is a Suzhou Corporate Training Manager

Dining



Hairy crab feast

From October 13 until the end of November, the Grand Hyatt Beijing will offer a feast of renowned hairy crabs boasting tender meat, a strong fragrance, high nutrition and the exquisite taste of authentic Cantonese cuisine.

During the hairy crab season, the hotel will also carefully prepare a set menu that will include sweetened ginger soup, chestnut rice balls and other selections.

Where: Noble Court Restaurant, Grand Hyatt Beijing, Oriental Plaza, 1 Dong Chang'an Jie, Dongcheng

Tel: 8518 1234 ext 3822

(By Sun Feng)

Crab festival

With the much-awaited crab-tasting season coming, the Presidential Plaza Hotel has selected the very best crabs from Yangcheng Lake.

There are a variety of crab dishes on offer with unique sauces such as braised crab with curry and garlic, braised crab with glass noodles and XO sauce in broth, baked salted crab, and so on.

Where: Jade Palace, Presidential Plaza Hotel, 9 Fuchengmen Wai Dajie, Xicheng

Tel: 5858 5620

(By Sun Feng)

Skyline Cafe

Hotel Kunlun, in conjunction with the Nagasaki Prefectural Government, proudly presents a culinary festival to delight the most discriminating of Japanese food lovers.

Nagasaki's own Chef Ikeda and Chef Moriyama will create an assortment of delightful Japanese gastronomic masterpieces using the freshest ingredients from Nagasaki.

On October 22, Guest Chefs Ikeda and Moriyama add a touch of Nagasaki to the Keikoku Japanese Restaurant. For one evening only, indulge in the special Robata-yaki Set Menu created by the chefs themselves.

Where: Hotel Kunlun, 2 Xinyuan Nanlu, Chaoyang
Tel: 6590 3388

(By Li Jing)

Aviation

Experience British Airways Club World from 24,000 yuan

British Airways announces a special offer for its business class passengers flying from Beijing or Shanghai. Passengers who book Club World return tickets to the UK or Europe by March 31, 2009 will enjoy preferential fares from just 24,000 yuan.

For UK destinations, passengers can travel to London and one of six other cities including Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Jersey. The same fare also applies to one of over 40 destinations in Europe.

The offer is valid for departure from Beijing or Shanghai before March 31, 2009.

Tel: 10 800 7440 031 (for Northern China), 10 800 4400 031 (for Southern China)

Website: ba.com

(By Li Jing)

 If you have any info for this page, please send it to lixiaojing@ynet.com

Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

The pot calls the kettle black

By Gan Tian

My friend Jessica Liu, a girl of 25, spends most of her day being critical of something. At a restaurant she will claim to be able to make every dish at home – and better. During a party you can overhear her complaining about the wine or the other guests' lack of style. "That woman's English is so bad," she will say, or "I think she needs to update her wardrobe."

A few days ago I invited a group of friends to a fashion show. Jessica showed up, as usual claiming to have "a great sense of fashion," though the clothes on display hardly held our attention at all. All of our conversation was on the fabulous-looking models.

"I love her legs," said an American friend, pointing at a model. "I want to find a Chinese girlfriend like that one." I was just about to tell him she was the most popular Chinese model at the moment when Jessica broke in. "Oh, she's just a vase," she said. "No brains, just a pretty face. I bet you could find a clever girl."

Silence reigned.

"Here we go again," I thought, giving her a nasty look. But my friend Tim did not seem to mind. Instead he said "What do you mean by saying she's a vase?"

Jessica thought Tim was trying to stir up an argument, and she got ready for a rebuttal. "I mean, look at that model standing there. Did she go to college? Can she speak fluent English? I don't think so. She only knows how to trot down the runway and put a smile on a man's face."

"So you mean she is attractive and nice to look at but has no other valuable qualities?" Tim asked.

"Exactly!" said Jessica, pleased that someone finally understood her deep thoughts.

"She's not a vase," said Tim. "We would call her 'eye candy' in English. I think you need to work on your English fluency right away."

That day, I learned Jessica could be brought down a peg or two, and the term English speakers use to describe someone who is on hand just to please the eyes. It was certainly a day full of food for thought.

CFP Photo

Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.

Local professor: Zhu Shida

1. In touch with the nature

When "nature" means "all things except those created by man," or "da zi ran" in Chinese, it never takes a definite article before it. So it is wrong to say "in touch with the nature." Similarly, when it means the sum total of forces at work throughout the universe, we say "the laws of nature." It means the regular ways in which people or things are or act. For instance, it is against nature for a mother to hurt her child. When it means what a thing really is; quality; character, it takes the definite article. For instance, it is the nature of robins to fly and build nests. When it means a particular sort; kind, it takes an indefinite article. For instance, books of a scientific nature do not interest her. It is synonymous with type.

2. 10 meter-height

This problem involves the correct ways to express the idea of length, age and distance. It should be "10-meter-

high" as an attributive or "10-meter height" as a noun. I find students are liable to commit mistakes either by saying "10-meters high" or "10-meters height." Remember when it is an attributive it is always in a singular form. The same thing takes place with the expression of ideas of age. We say "10-year-old boy" but never "10-years-old boy" nor "10-years boy." In the modern development of English the expression of "10 year old" is used as a noun, for instance, "the 10 year old likes the cartoon." Standard English demands that when we wish to express the idea of the 10 year old we have to say "the kids at 10 years of age."

3. The chain will not longer accept book orders.

The set expression is "no longer." We will never say "not longer" as a combined phrase. So it is "The chain will no longer accept book orders." If you wish to say this sentence in its negative form you will have to say: "The chain will not accept book orders any longer."

Native Speaker: David Drakeford

1. In touch with the nature

In this sentence "nature" refers to the natural world and so is a concept. Nature, love, death, pain etc do not require a "the" in front of them. The natural world, the act of love, the shadow of death, the threat of pain are more specific.

2. 10 meter-height

When several words are used together as an adjective we link them with hyphens, so "a 10-meter-high pile of newspapers," or even "He gave me a don't-talk-to-me-now look" for a longer chain. The exception is with adjectives ending with "ly". So "A highly sought-after work of art by a

highly successful artist." In the Blacklist example the noun "height" has been linked to part of the adjective with a hyphen, which will always be wrong.

3. The chain will not longer accept book orders.

This is just a set phrase students have to commit to memory. The chain of stores used to accept book orders but have now stopped. In other words, they no longer accept book orders. The grammar is not particularly logical but the phrase shouldn't come as a complete shock to a learner of English. We talk about a "length" of time so a length of time that is "no longer" has obviously come to a stop.



Be careful

By David Drakeford

What could be more pleasant than a relaxing stroll in a park? The fresh air filling your lungs, nature in all its glorious majesty, the gentle song of the birds. But wait ... the birdsong is getting rather loud, isn't it? Suddenly our placid, bucolic scene turns into something from an Alfred Hitchcock movie, with flocks of frantic winged warriors bearing down on you and pecking at your ears. "Why?" you scream to the heavens.

The answer is simple – Chinglish.

The sign starts "Becareful", which should be two words, but is still understandable, and then goes on to warn us of "burning". But what is burning? We couldn't see any flames or smell any smoke, which is why we ignored the sign and now have a mouth full of feathers and bleeding ears.

"Be careful: wild birds" would have been a better warning. Then we would have known what was perching in wait. "Wild" is used to describe any animal that lives out in the natural world, but also gives us a warning as to its own nature. Just as a wild party is one that is likely to get out of hand, a wild bird cannot be expected to perch obediently on its owner's wrist forever.

Becoming Jane (2007)

Movie of the week

Jane Austen wrote many touching love stories that have been popular through the generations. Though she never married, her life story is still worth looking into. A number of movie stars, including Kate Winslet, Natalie Portman and Keira Knightly auditioned for the role of Jane, though it was Anne Hathaway who finally won the part. To prepare for the movie, Hathaway learned how to play the piano and took up elocution lessons. Her efforts were well worth it for an authentic viewing experience.

Synopsis

It was 1796 when 20-year-old Jane met Tom Lefroy, who bore the responsibility of supporting his poor family and depended on his wealthy uncle. To marry for love instead of money was a foolish game in those days. Mr Wisley, with his great fortune, was an ideal husband for Jane in her parents' eyes. But Jane disagreed and fell in love with the handsome and clever but poor lawyer Lefroy. They decided to leave everything behind and run away. Happiness seemed to be at hand until Jane realized their situation and refused to be an hindrance to their families.

Scene 3

(A letter arrives and spoils hopes for Tom and Jane's marriage.)

Tom Lefroy (T): Good morning, sir.

Judge Langlois (L): Good morning. Has the world turned topsy (8)?

T: Sir?

L: I trust the countess is enjoying her visit?

T: I guess she is, sir. I ...

L: Fine woman, very fine woman.

T: Indeed. I'd hoped to discuss a certain matter.

L: Your allowance is beyond negotiation.

T: Now that you have had the opportunity to become acquainted with (9) Miss Austen yourself, I am sure you will find, as I do, that she is a remarkable young woman.

L: This is an outrage!

T: If you will allow me to speak, sir.

L: There is no need. This letter makes it absolutely clear.

T: Letter?

L: Now I know what you were at down in Hampshire.

T: It is from Steventon?

L: Is it true that you have practiced upon me with this cheat?

T: I wished you to know the young lady. I wished to introduce her to your affections discreetly.

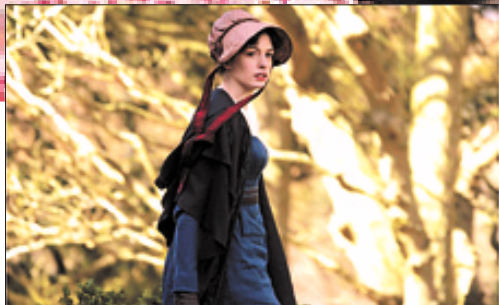
L: Aye! Blind me with the rich widow and then insinuate (10) that penniless little husband-hunter!

T: Moderation, sir, I beg you!

L: That ironical little authoress.

T: I wished you to know her for yourself. I was certain her merit would speak for her. Consider, sir, my happiness is in your hands.

L: Happiness? Damn it, nephew, I had rather you were a whore-mongering black-guard with a chance of reform than a love-sick (11) whelp sunk in a bad marriage.



Scene 1

(The Judge wants to turn his nephew into a qualified lawyer.)

Judge Langlois (L): If you aspire to inherit my property, you must prove yourself more worthy. But what do we find? We find dissipation wild enough to glut the imaginations of a Hottentot braggadocio. Wild companions, gambling, running around St James's like a neck-or-nothing (1) young blood of the fancy. What kind of lawyer will that make?

Tom Lefroy (T): Typical.

L: Humor? Well, you're going to need that because I'm teaching you a lesson (2). I'm sending you to stay with your other relations, the Lefroys.

T: Uncle, they live in the country.

L: Deep in the country.

Scene 2

(Lady Gresham persuades Jane to accept her nephew Mr. Wisley's proposal.)

Lady Gresham (G): Miss Austen? There you are. Miss Austen, I cannot believe I am obliged to (3) have this

conversation.

Jane Austen (J): Your Ladyship?

G: Mr Wisley's mother, my own dear sister, died young. I have no children of my own. I hope you never come to understand the pain of that condition. Let us simply say, my nephew's wishes are close to my heart, however extraordinary they may be.

G: Well, your health seems robust. You have the usual accomplishments. Your person is agreeable. But when a young woman such as yourself receives the addresses from a gentleman such as my nephew, it is her duty to accept at once. But what do we find?

J: Independent thought?

G: Exactly. My nephew, Miss Austen, condescends far indeed in offering to the daughter of an obscure and impecunious (4) clergyman.

J: Impecunious? Your Ladyship is mistaken.

G: I am never mistaken. Your father is in grave (5) financial difficulties. But all is not lost (6). He has a daughter upon whom fortune has smiled (7).



Scene 4

(The two decide to run away together)

Tom Lefroy (T): I cannot do this. And so you would marry Wisley? Please? If there is a shred of (12) truth or justice inside of you, you cannot marry him.

Jane Austen (J): Oh no, Mr Lefroy. Justice, by your own admission, you know little of, truth even less.

T: Jane, I have tried. I have tried and I cannot live this lie. Can you? Jane, can you? What value will there be in life if we are not together? Run away with me.

J: An elopement (13)?

T: That is exactly what I

propose. We'll post to London, by Friday be in Scotland, and man and wife.

J: Leave everything?

T: Everything. It is the only way we can be together.

Cassandra Austen (C): You'll lose everything, family, place, for what? A lifetime of drudgery on a pittance? A child every year and no means to lighten the load (14)? How will you write, Jane?

J: I do not know. But happiness is within my grasp and I cannot help myself.

C: There is no sense in this.

J: If you could have your Robert back, even like this, would you do it?

(By Zheng Lu)

Vocabulary:

- Neck-or-nothing:** reckless.
- Teaching someone a lesson:** to punish someone so that they will not behave badly again.
- Be obliged to:** be forced to do something.
- Impecunious:** lacking money, poor.
- Grave:** here in the context it means the serious and worrying condition.
- All is not lost:** there is still hope for something.
- Fortune smiles upon someone:** someone becomes lucky.
- Something turns**

- topsy:** something has changed completely.
- Become acquainted with:** to be familiar with.
 - Insinuate:** to introduce or insert (oneself) by subtle and artful means.
 - Love-sick:** languishing with love or amorous desire.
 - A shred of:** a very small piece or amount; fragment; particle of something.
 - Elopement:** the act of running away with a lover, especially with the intention of getting married.
 - Lighten the load:** to make a difficult or upsetting situation easier to deal with.

